



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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PROTECTED PRICES.

AGENTS or manufacturers of proprietary articles the prices of which are protected in any manner, and generally or locally, are requested to inform the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

COLONIAL TRADE.

THE Colonial connection of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is unique. Our Colonial post-bag is the heaviest that goes out of London weekly. For more than forty years we have been cultivating the Colonies, with the result that THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is as well known in Colonial towns as it is in London, Liverpool, Manchester, or any other town or city at home. We do not rest on past achievements. British Colonies are growing all the time, and the circulation of the C. & D. must grow with that growth. Hence, with the object of bringing all Colonial buyers into touch with our advertisers, THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of April 25, 1903, will be specially circulated in the Colonies.

The Colonial Issue of that date, in addition to subscribers throughout the United Kingdom and abroad, will go to buyers of chemicals, drugs and their preparations, perfumery and toilet-preparations, aerated-water supplies, &c., in South African Colonies, the East Indies, China, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, and other parts of the Empire. Our Publisher can tell all about it, and it is to him, at 42 Cannon Street, E.C., that advertisers should write for the space they require. We believe we may say, without fear of contradiction, that THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is the only journal of pharmacy in the world that has reached the distinction of having Colonial offices. These are situated in three capitals of Australia, and conserve our Colonial interests. The inference is obvious: to get into touch with Colonial buyers of goods which this journal represents advertise in the Colonial Issue of April 25.

Summary.

SEVERAL interesting trade novelties are described on p. 421.

CONDAL WATER furnishes us with two legal reports (p. 426).

THE trade of India during the last official year is reviewed on p. 434.

BRITISH export trade in February was exceptionally good (p. 435).

DR. GULLI makes further pertinent observations on citron oil (p. 454).

ADEPS ADEPTIS, our advertising expert, takes humorous advertisers to task (p. 450).

A NEW METHOD of estimating the nitrogenous constituents of urine is outlined on p. 430.

TRANSVAAL TRADE last year was more than encouraging. We quote the figures on p. 448.

WE give further information about the liability of creolin-preparations to stamp-duty (p. 435).

MR. BROADHEAD explains that his circular *re* Mr. Walshaw's candidature was his own idea (p. 454).

INCOMING TENANTS are liable for the gas account of their predecessor under certain conditions (p. 426).

THE PHARMACEUTICAL FOOTBALL CLUB retain the championship and silver cup for another year (p. 419).

THE income of a popular-pill proprietor is said to be 85,000% a year, less than half of which is from the pill (p. 416).

IN AN IRON-PILLS CASE in North London it was stated that the pilloried pills were not of English manufacture (p. 428).

THE CONSTITUTION OF PILOCARPINE has still further been elucidated by the Wellcome chemical researchers (p. 436).

THE RHODAMINE DYE is in court again, and in spite of clever advocacy by Mr. Asquith the patentees gained a point (p. 423).

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION is to meet in Cambridge in 1904, with Mr. A. J. Balfour as President. Will the B.P.C. follow suit? (p. 416)

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY'S EVENING MEETING in London this week was rather poorly attended. The fare was in sympathy (p. 423).

THE IRISH PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL had rather a short meeting last week, and made special arrangements for the April examinations (p. 447).

THE PHARMACY BILL stands where it did last week. We show on p. 432 that several of its provisions are inimical to the interests of individual chemists.

MR. C. E. PICKERING's experience of the drug-trade is criticised by correspondents. Mr. Pickering tells how a big company could not catch him (p. 455).

MR. F. H. GLEW read a paper before the Röntgen Society last week. We illustrate the report with a photograph of a Tesla high-frequency spark (p. 435).

MR. A. J. RIVETT is the new President of the Cape Colony Pharmaceutical Society, the members of which regret that there is to be no Martindale scholarship (p. 448).

A BOTTLE OF SODA-WATER, 120 years old, which was brought up from the wreck of the *Royal George*, was sold this week for 25 guineas. Messrs. Stevenson & Howell secured it (p. 416).

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD has laid down an important regulation of Poor-law dispensers' salaries consequent upon a recognition of the services of Mr. H. D. Kelf by his principals (p. 418).

THE way in which Magistrates are refusing off wine-licences to chemists (*e.g.*, on p. 417) raises a distinct grievance, which we have put before the Board of Inland Revenue. The Board's reply is on p. 433.

IN connection with the death of the author of "John Inglesant," we give some particulars of the chemical firm of which he was a partner, reproducing a letter written in 1781 by one of his ancestors (p. 452).

MR. DOBBS is busy. Colonel Long, M.P. for the Evesham Division of Worcester, has questioned the Prime Minister about the Poisons Bill (p. 442); and a Worcestershire Agricultural Society has considered the Poisons Committee's report (p. 454).

A SUBSTANTIAL ADVANCE has taken place in bismuth and salts. Citric acid and cod-liver oil are again dearer. Cinchona was higher at auction, and there have been advances in sulphate of copper, rhubarb, Jamaica ginger, and Japanese wax. Peppermint oil is easier. Business is dull (p. 413).

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

Mr. Bernal Harman, chemist and druggist, Great Marlow, has obtained the disinfectants-contract for the local District Council.

Messrs. R. Sumner & Co., of 50A Lord Street, Liverpool, have secured the supply of druggists' sundries to the Liverpool hospitals for the ensuing year.

A correspondent of the *Daily Chronicle* says the Pharmacy Act "has been set at defiance more resolutely by chemists themselves" than by—he does not say what. He asks us to dispute the assertion. We do.

At the meeting of the Manchester Section of the Society of Chemical Industry on March 6, papers were read on "The Analysis of Indiarubber" and "Improvements in the Manufacture of Sulphuric Acid by the Chamber Process."

The nine West Riding District inspectors under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts took 2,330 samples in 1902 and forwarded them to the analyst, Mr. A. H. Allen, of Sheffield. Local authorities were responsible for 343 samples in addition.

The Apollinaris Company (Limited) have received an apology from a person against whom the company had commenced a libel action for publishing statements in reference to Apollinaris water which he now admits are entirely erroneous.

Sir Horace Tozer, K.C.M.G., Agent-General for Queensland, has requested Mr. J. Barton-Faithfull, 6 Oppidans Road, Primrose Hill, London, N.W., to form a collection of minerals, oils, chemical colours, &c., for the permanent Commercial Museum at Brisbane.

The 298 samples analysed by Mr. Clarence A. Seyler, analyst to the Glamorgan County Council, during the quarter ended March 31, included ginger (whole and ground) four, vinegar two, paregoric two, and one each of powdered rhuarb and tincture of iodine. All were found to be genuine.

On March 3 an alarming fire, which illuminated the chemical district of Widnes and Ditton, broke out at the Ditton Oil Company's works, doing damage roughly estimated at 5,000*l*. The conflagration, which had to burn itself out, was caused by the fracture of a gas-pipe in one of the stills.

At the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Cambridgeshire Permanent Benefit Building Society on Monday, March 9, many complimentary things were said of Alderman George Peck, chemist and druggist, in regard to his work as a director of the society, and the appointment of Mr. E. Saville Peck, M.A., as his successor, was confirmed.

A farm-servant named Wm. Cowton was, at Filey, on March 6, fined 3*l*. for administering poisonous drugs to horses. Sulphate of copper mixed with spice and liq. antim. chlor. were found in his possession, and he admitted that he gave the horses drugs as they were not doing well. The evidence showed that what he gave made them worse.

The Lincoln City Council have appointed Mr. J. Baynes, F.I.C., analytical and consulting chemist and bacteriologist, of Hull, as public analyst for the city, at a salary of 50*l*. a year, his duty for such salary to include the analysis of not more than 100 articles a year. This appointment has been necessitated owing to the resignation of Dr. G. M. Lowe.

Portsmouth has not yet got its public analyst. The Town Council is divided as to whether the office should be held by a chemist pure and simple, or by a medical officer of health. A letter from the Institute of Chemistry advising the former course was read at Tuesday's meeting, and after an animated debate the motion to appoint a medical man was negatived by twenty-seven votes to fifteen.

The Explosives Department of the Home Office has informed the Ludlow Rural District Council that all persons

who wished to keep more than 5 lbs. of carbide of calcium must obtain a licence under the Petroleum Acts, irrespective of the purpose of the storage. The question arose from an application of the Celtic Acetylene Company for a reduction of the rate of licence, as the company keep the carbide in many places.

The Board of Customs have sanctioned the addition of farina, potato-flour, and starch to the list of articles which may be warehoused in bond, the complete list now being as follows: Arrowroot, cassava-powder, and tapioca, farina, mandioca or tapioca-flour, potato-flour, rice, sago, sago-flour, starch, macaroni, vermicelli, and similar preparations of dutiable cereals, and Quaker oats, rolled oats, and articles of a like character.

Mrs. Joseph Beecham applied, under a separation order, to the High Court on Monday, March 10, for an increase of her allowance beyond the 2,500*l*. a year granted by the Court. Mr. Hugo Young, counsel for the applicant, said she claimed one-third of her husband's income. She was informed, but could not say definitely, that the pill-business brought in 30,000*l*. annually, and that her husband's total income was 85,000*l*. The case was adjourned till Friday.

The British Association.

The Council of the British Association for the Advancement of Science have unanimously nominated the Right Hon. Arthur James Balfour, M.A., D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S., to the office of President for the Cambridge meeting in 1904. They further agreed to recommend to the Association the acceptance of the invitation to South Africa for the year 1905.

Crusted Soda-water.

At Stevens's Auction-rooms, Covent Garden, on March 10, a bottle of soda-water recovered from the wreck of the *Royal George*, which was sunk in 1782, was offered for sale and bought by Messrs. Stevenson & Howell (Limited), Southwark Street, S.E., for 26*l*. 15*s*. 6*d*. The bottle was recovered from the wreck in 1839, and has since then formed part of the Hope collection. The authenticity of the relic is considered to be well established, although the auctioneer was treated to some good-natured banter when offering it for sale. The bottle, of the familiar soda-water shape, is of green glass, and contains about two-thirds of the contents, which were originally about half a pint. The cork is still retained by wire, although partly displaced, apparently by internal pressure. The glass is incrustated by a thin layer of deposited salts. No clue is given as to the name of the maker. Mr. Kirkby, in his recently published book on mineral waters, considers that to Mr. Richard Bewley, of Great Massingham, belongs the credit of the idea of artificial aeration of liquids. Mr. Bewley applied the method to his mephitic julep in 1767.

London School Board Contracts.

At a meeting of the London School Board on March 5, it was agreed to accept the tender of Mr. L. S. Tompsett, pharmaceutical chemist, of 127 Anerley Road, S.E., for the supply of medicine under the prescriptions of the medical officer of the Anerley Cottage Homes for the Deaf at the rate of 1½*d*. an oz., with a minimum charge of 6*d*. and an additional charge of 50 per cent. if costly drugs are prescribed, and a night fee of 1*s*. when called during the night.

A Gas-explosion.

Shortly before 7 on Tuesday evening a tremendous explosion took place at the establishment of Mr. Edwin Thorpe, chemist and druggist, of High Street, Kettering, resulting in not a sound bit of glass being left in either of the two large plate-glass windows or the entrance-door. Behind the shop is a dark-room for developing-purposes, and this room is approached by a door from the front shop. Noticing a strong smell of gas coming from the direction of the dark-room, Mr. Thorpe proceeded to investigate with a light, but before he realised the risk he was running the explosion took place, and in a moment he was enveloped in flames, and the glass of the windows came out with a crash on to the public footpath in the main thoroughfare. Medical aid was at once summoned to Mr. Thorpe. It is curious to note that beyond the breakage of the glass nothing was upset in the window.

Off Wine-licences.

Messrs. H. Hitchman & Sons, chemists, Kettering, have been granted an off wine-licence.

An off wine-licence has been granted to Mr. John Cains, manager of Mr. Thos. Arthur White's branch-pharmacy, 36 Clarendon Road, East Southsea. The application was supported by several medical men.

Applications by the following have been refused:—

Mr. E. W. Rogers, chemist and druggist, High West Street, Gateshead.

Mr. Walter C. A. Bradley, druggist, of 544 Manchester Road, Bradford.

Mr. Frank Moss, chemist and druggist, of Kingswood and Staple Hill, Bristol.

St. Helens (at Sessions).—Messrs. Waller & Riley (Limited), 40 Liverpool Road, St. Helens.

Mr. F. W. Elliott, chemist and druggist, Bolsover, because there is a licence within thirty yards!

An application was made by Mr. W. Huntrods, Top Moor Side, Holbeck, at the Leeds City adjourned Brewster Sessions on March 10, for an off wine-licence. Mr. W. Warren, in reply to the Stipendiary Magistrate (Mr. C. M. Atkinson), stated that when Mr. Huntrods applied for the licence no one seemed to be able to say what "medicated wines" really were. One member of the Bench thought they consisted of the best of wines, whilst another judged them to be the worst. Mr. Huntrods thereupon enumerated the wines, which included a special port, and the Magistrate said, "I always thought that medicated wines were those which had been reduced to such a condition that if a thief took them he would not do it again." (Loud laughter.) The licence was confirmed on condition that sales would be confined to medicated wines.

A similar application was made by Mr. A. Wrigley, chemist and druggist, Upper Accommodation Road, Leeds, and was granted.

Mr. E. W. Hardman, chemist, Wellington Road, should have made a like application, but he did not appear.

Messrs. W. A. Wharram (Limited), wholesale and retail chemists, North Street, applied for what the Chairman (Mr. Woodhouse) described as a Gladstonian licence to sell wines and spirits. Mr. W. A. Wharram stated that his firm had some 1,100 surgeons on their books, of whom 120 were in Leeds. They had had frequent applications made to them for grain spirit, which was used in the manufacture of tinctures. The Chairman: You are asking for a licence to sell wines and spirits in quantities of not less than reputed quart bottles. Mr. Pearson (for the applicant): Quite so. It also includes invalid port. The licence was refused.

Sheffield Notes.

Mr. F. A. Upsler Smith, of Chesterfield, and Mr. Wilkinson, of Worksop, have been elected members of the local Pharmaceutical Society.

The estimate of the Finance Committee of the City Council for the half-year ending September 29 next includes a sum of 4,773*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* for the department of the Medical Officer of Health, &c. (including service of debt).

Boots (Limited) are pushing their lending-library very strongly here under the title of the Book-lovers' Library. They have sixteen branches in the city, but there does not appear to be any diminution in the number of shops run by individual pharmacists.

The annual ball of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society was a great success socially. It is gratifying to learn that the venture was also a success financially, there being the handsome balance of 11*l.* 12*s.* in hand after defraying all expenses.

The high wind prevailing in the early hours of Sunday morning, March 9, was responsible for the breaking of a large plate-glass window at the premises of Boots (Limited), at the corner of Regent Street and West Street, Sheffield. The goods in the window were undisturbed by the gale.

The Secretary of the Chemists' Defence Association (Limited) has received from the local Association and

private local sources the sum of 23*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.*, collected towards the Drug-trade Appeal Fund. The local Secretaries of the P.A.T.A. have met, and decided to commence to canvass in the interests of the Association.

The correspondence on dispensing chemists continues in the Sheffield *Daily Telegraph*. One correspondent, defending his practice of counter-prescribing, said:—

I was apprenticed to a prescribing chemist, who at the present time deals with over 4,000 cases yearly. My father paid 200*l.* for me to learn the arts of pharmacy. I was taught the business of my master, which is chiefly prescribing. . . . My customers know I am not a doctor, but a chemist; still they frequently tell me, "I would rather come to you than go to the doctor, where I can get my medicine for nothing." How is it this state of things exists? Because the public have lost confidence in the club doctors, and prefer a good bottle of medicine to the club-doctor's concoction.

"Treatment," responding to this, said: "The practice is most reprehensible, and is not tolerated by the vast majority of the profession." "Wisdom Tooth" chimed in, stirring up all the trouble again, and ending by saying the dispute between prescribers and dispensers is a case of "the pot calling the kettle black." Mr. H. Antcliffe, Hon. Secretary of the local Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society, replies to "Wisdom Tooth," pointing out that the obligations placed upon chemists (and not upon doctors) as regards poison-bottles are the means of avoiding serious accidents to the public.

Sussex Meeting about the Pharmacy Bill.

The following is a list of the chemists who attended the recent private conference held at St. Leonards-on-Sea to meet Mr. Bremridge:—

F. Rossiter, St. Leonards	H. C. Browne, Eastbourne
C. R. Steadman, St. Leonards	J. Senior, Eastbourne
John Smith, St. Leonards	D. Marchant, Eastbourne
Ed. Ripley, St. Leonards	Walter Price, Eastbourne
T. G. Balting, St. Leonards	W. T. Martin, Lewes
E. Kemp, St. Leonards	W. H. Harold, Battle
Fredk. Tree, St. Leonards	E. N. Robbins, Bexhill
Chas. A. Tharle, Hastings	F. Wimshurst, Bexhill
Sidney Smith, Hastings	A. E. Hobbs, Tunbridge Wells
Thos. W. Vint, Hastings	O. Rogers, Tunbridge Wells
H. C. Edwards, Hastings	H. G. Pearmund, Tunbridge Wells
W. A. Dawes, Hastings	S. V. Booth, Tunbridge Wells
Fredk. Brooks, Hastings	John H. Bishop, Tunbridge Wells
S. Gibbs, Eastbourne	R. M. Ewell, Dover
P. Routby, Eastbourne	
Geo. A. Harmer, Eastbourne	

Hospital Economies.

The Management Committee of the Portsmouth Hospital, at a special meeting on Friday, decided to add Alderman T. Scott Foster, J.P. (dentist), and Dr. Emmett to the Drugs Committee of that institution. Alderman Foster, who during the past year has subjected this committee to a good deal of criticism, demurred to the appointment, and asked to be left out as it is well known he had very strong views on this subject. Last year, as a result of special attention to the matter, 240*l.* was saved in the purchase of drugs alone. Ultimately Mr. Foster said he would yield to what appeared to be the unanimous desire of the meeting, and would serve on the committee.

Birmingham Notes.

There are fifty-two cases of smallpox in the Birmingham Isolation Hospital. The epidemic is traceable to tramps, and is increasing at the rate of nineteen per week.

Phosphate mantles are the latest novelty in the incandescent-mantle line. They are prepared by a process patented by Mr. Wilson, pharmaceutical chemist, of our city, and are said to be cheaper than ordinary mantles.

A valuable post for a young chemist becomes vacant at the gasworks, as Dr. Harold G. Colman, who was appointed in 1892, is leaving to practise as a consultant in London. He specially studied the questions of naphthalene and cyanogen.

Mr. Ernest Jones, formerly chief assistant to Mr. Hughes (late analyst for Dudley), has been appointed research chemist to the Rudge-Whitworth Cycle Company, Coventry. He was formerly a pupil with Mr. F. H. Alcock, Broad Street Corner.

The members of the University Chemical Society had their annual day's outing last Friday. Messrs. Osler's Gas-works, Messrs. Mitchell's Brewery, and the King's Norton Paper-mills were visited. At the Brewery a sumptuous repast was provided.

Mr. F. Adam, chemist, of Pigott Street, has taken Mr. Wilkes's old pharmacy, and put Mr. Percy Tyms, pharmaceutical chemist, in as manager. Mr. Adams has now four branch shops, including one at Fiveways and another at Stirebley.

Some idea of the work of such a public institution as our General Hospital can be gathered from the 123rd annual report just issued. The number of in-patients was 5,642, a daily average of 288.5. The out-patients were 62,519. All the dispensing for these patients is provided for by a chief dispenser (Mr. W. Peck), aided by several lady assistants and articulated lady pupils.

At Fenton last Wednesday the Stipendiary held that the question of tapioca *versus* sago was not one of fraud; but, as it was not supplying what the customer wanted, but what the seller had to dispose of, he imposed a small fine of 10s. and costs. How would this affect pharmacists who sell cucumber-cream, cold-cream, roscbud-liniment, and similarly named articles?

An Interesting Sale.

A lively company assembled at Blanket Row, Hull, on Thursday last, March 5, to take part in the sale of the laboratory-plant, analytical apparatus, and contents of the warehouse of Messrs. Allison, Johnson & Foster (Limited), in liquidation. The plant, which was of the most modern description, had only recently been supplied and fitted up by Messrs. Bennett, Sons & Shears (Limited), of London, and included a fine copper vacuum-pan. Everything was in perfect order, clean and polished to the highest degree, no amount of elbow-grease having been spared. Steam was up in the boiler, and all the machinery was in motion, the engines working noiselessly and the large mill-stones revolving apparently without effort. The drug-trade in Yorkshire and elsewhere was well represented, and included Messrs. Saltmer and Surefoot, of Messrs. Lofthouse & Saltmer, Mr. Gravel, of Hay (Limited), and Mr. Wallis, of Hull; Mr. W. A. Kemp, of Horncastle; Messrs. Hoyt and Singer, of Timothy White Company, Portsmouth; Messrs. Hirst, Brooke & Hirst (Limited) and Mr. W. A. Wharram, of Leeds; Mr. Humphreys, of Bleasdales (Limited), and Messrs. Raimes & Co., of York, and many others. The auctioneer (Mr. Charlesworth), who was very loquacious, made the most of his opportunities, and succeeded in getting prices far above the average, many lots fetching as much as, and in some cases more than, their first cost. It is curious to note this in the present depressed state of trade, but it is no doubt due to the fact that all Englishmen love a fight, and none more than the Tykes.

Poor-law Dispensaries.

Cranbrook Board of Guardians have accepted the tender of Messrs. T. G. Stonhams & Son, chemists and druggists, Maidstone, for the supply of medical appliances to the workhouse.

The Chippenham Board of Guardians have declined to adopt the recommendation of the Local Government Board that they, instead of the medical officers, should provide expensive drugs and medicines for paupers.

At the meeting of the Yarmouth Board of Guardians last week, the Clerk stated that the Apothecaries' Hall declined to supply the Board with their price-list for the purpose of adjudicating upon the tenders. The Guardians required tenderers to state how much discount they would allow off this list. In the course of the discussion it was suggested that the Board could get over the difficulty, and they decided to invite tenders for drugs at per cent. above or below the list-price of the Apothecaries' Company, the list to be obtained by the contractor.

At the meeting of the Marylebone Board of Guardians on Monday, the Contract Committee reported that they had

received the following tenders for the supply of drugs to the several establishments for the ensuing six months: Messrs. Corbyn, Stacey & Co. (Limited), 305*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*; Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., 330*l.* 18*s.* 4*d.*; and Messrs. T. Hodgkinson, Prestons & King, 279*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.* The last-mentioned tender was accepted.

At a meeting of the Southwark Guardians on Thursday, March 5, a letter was read from the Local Government Board declining to sanction the increase of the salary of Mr. H. D. Kelf, the dispenser at the Guardians' infirmary at East Dulwich, from 120*l.* to 130*l.* The increase was recommended by the Guardians on the ground that Mr. Kelf is a very capable officer and has instituted reforms in his department which have saved the ratepayers hundreds of pounds. The Local Government Board's letter stated that they had had under consideration the question of the salaries of dispensers in the Metropolis, and had decided to allow the following scale as a maximum—viz., an initial salary of 120*l.* rising to 140*l.* after four years' service, and then by increments of 10*l.* every four years, to 180*l.* per annum, the value of emoluments to be taken into account in fixing the salary. They further pointed out that Mr. Kelf received an allowance of 8*s.* per week in lieu of dinner and tea, making his present total remuneration upwards of 140*l.* per annum, and consequently they would not, under the present scale, be prepared to sanction any increase in his remuneration until he had completed eight years service.

The Mineral-water Association.

Mr. Mark Beaufoy presided on March 5 at the seventeenth annual meeting of the London Mineral-water Bottle Exchange and Trade Protection Society, held at the Hotel Cecil. The Secretary (Mr. Walter Davenport) in his report gave proof of the value of the Bottle Exchange in the fact that the number of bottles finding their way to the dust-yards has so largely diminished. In 1893 233,124 dozen bottles were recovered from dust-yards and other outside sources, whereas in 1902 the recoveries under this head had fallen to 64,160 dozen. The Council congratulated the members upon this direct saving. The actual work of the Bottle Exchange since last March showed that 498,687 dozen bottles, 45,486 boxes, 46,942 syphons, and 690 casks had been brought into the Exchange and distributed to their owners. The President, in moving the adoption of the report, deplored the fact that the past year had been a disastrous one to aerated-water makers. It had been said that seven-tenths of the mineral-water industry of the country is in an insolvent state; and, whilst he did not think matters are so bad as that, there is no doubt that they had not much on which to congratulate themselves so far as actual trade done is concerned. Before the mineral-water industry is anything like a reasonably remunerative one, there would have to be a greater uniformity of action amongst the manufacturers with regard to prices and bottle-charging. Mr. Jas. Johnson, in seconding the motion, agreed that the only means of ameliorating the condition of the trade is uniformity of action in a slight increase of prices, or the knocking-off of discounts and a general system of bottle-charging. Mr. Mark Beaufoy was re-elected President, the Council reappointed, and all the Executive cordially thanked.

The Herbalist's Warning.

A herbalist named Ward had a rebuke from the Coroner at an inquest held at Horwich on March 3 on a man named Farrington, whose fellow-workmen had subscribed for herbal treatment. Farrington died suddenly, but Dr. Kerr, when applied to, refused a certificate, though he told the Coroner that the herbs given to deceased were harmless; they were agrimony, broom, senna, and liquorice-powder. A verdict of natural causes was returned, and the Coroner warned Ward that persons grossly ignorant of medicine ran a serious risk in prescribing for patients, and in the event of death might be liable to a committal for manslaughter.

Alleged Thefts.

Thomas Edward Dart (24) was remanded at Brighton Court last week on a charge of stealing perfumery and toilet-articles to the value of 3*l.* from George C. Dusart, of the Sussex Drug Company (Limited), and also with receiving stolen articles of clothing. Dart had been in the company's employment, and it was alleged that he stole the perfumery,

£c., and exchanged some of the goods for clothing stolen from another shop.

At Wood Green Police Court on Friday, March 6, Alpheus Fisher (48), draper's clerk, Pembroke Road, South Tottenham, was charged with feloniously stealing and receiving patent medicines to the value of 30*l.*, the property of Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Sons, Aldersgate Street. Detective-Sergeant Tritton stated that on February 9 he obtained a warrant to search prisoner's residence. He went there in company with two other detectives, and in the back room of the ground floor he found seven boxes containing hundreds of boxes of pills and medicines of all kinds. Prisoner and his wife were present when the goods were discovered. The wife exclaimed, "You scoundrel; I knew you were receiving stolen property when you brought home the patent medicines." Witness took him to the police-station. Charles Jones, manager in prosecutors' drug and perfume department, identified the goods. Since August similar goods had, he said, been missed from that department. Such a quantity as that found on prisoner would not be sold to any one customer. Prisoner, who reserved his defence, was committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court.

Alleged Indecent Advertisement.

At Clerkenwell Police Court on Monday, March 9, before Mr. Bros, Christmas Harding, chemist and druggist, 18 Exmouth Street, Clerkenwell, was summoned for exhibiting in his shop-window printed matter alleged to be of an indecent nature. The police complained of a box labelled as containing a specific for a venereal complaint. Mr. Ricketts, for the defence, argued that the Act was not intended to interfere with the legitimate trade of chemists, but was aimed at the distribution and posting of certain handbills. Mr. Bros dismissed the summons.

Inter-Pharmacy League Football.

By order of the League Committee the Pharmaceutical F.C. played the London College F.C. once more, on Saturday, March 7, at Acton, on neutral territory, to decide the championship of the League for the present season, and the possession of the silver cup for the ensuing year. The ground was very wet, and a strong breeze blew from end to end of the field. The "Square" captain won the toss and elected to play with the wind and hill in his favour. For some time play was of an even character, but about twenty-five minutes from the start Hewlett opened the scoring for the "Square," who now began to have much the best of matters. Allen put on another goal; Hirst and Hewlett added one each before half-time, the teams crossing over with the "Square" men leading by 4 goals to *nil.* After the interval, although playing uphill and against the wind and sun, the "Square" team continued to press, the London defence being out-manceuvred time after time by the clever tactics of the opposing forwards. Hewlett once more netted the ball, as also did Colliitt shortly afterwards with a good shot from centre-half. A hail-storm swept the ground, but the game was kept going. Hirst and Allen scored further goals for the "Square" before the call of time. Result: Pharmaceutical F.C., 8 goals; London College, 0 goals. The Pharmaceuticals thus retain the championship and silver cup, the play during the season having resulted as follows:—

Team	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Goals		Points
					For	Against	
"Square" ...	7	6	1	0	41	7	12
London College ...	7	5	2	0	23	15	10
Muter's ...	6	1	4	1	5	30	3
Metropolitan College ...	6	0	5	1	6	23	1

The Week's Poisonings.

The fatalities from poison during the past week have been mainly from scheduled poisons, the record being as follows: Laudanum, opium, and chlorodyne, 5; carbolic acid, 3;

strychnine, 2; oxalic acid, 2. The unscheduled poisons used were: Mineral acids, 3; oxychloride of copper, 1; curare, 1. The last-named poison was taken by an inmate of an inebriates' home in mistake, it is supposed, for cocaine. The case of chlorodyne-poisoning occurred at Blackpool, the chlorodyne being obtained "for a cough" from Mr. Johnson, chemist, Adelaide Street, at whose shop deceased was a customer. In one of the cases of carbolic-poisoning the victim was stated to be a butler, in the employ of the Duke of Fife. In one of the cases of strychnine-poisoning the poison was in the form of vermin-killer; whilst in the other case, which occurred at Riddings, 10 gr. of strychnine was obtained, ostensibly for the purpose of poisoning a cat, from Mr. Alfred Shaw, chemist, Riddings. The laudanum used in a fatality at Bilston was bought of Mr. W. Westhead, 38 Church Street, and the deceased, a soldier just returned from South Africa, had been on the drink for some time previously. A lad at Carr, near Maltby, took laudanum because he imagined he was in pecuniary difficulties—the extent of his debt being 1*s.* Mr. Chas. Laycock, jun., Rotherham, who supplied the laudanum, said the boy told him it was for dressing wounds. Some cases of attempted poisoning are reported. In two instances decoction of match-heads was tried, and salts of lemon was the article with which the attempt was made in two other cases.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

Applications for admission to the April examinations should be lodged with the Registrar by 11 o'clock A.M. on the following dates: For the Preliminary examination, Monday, March 23; Pharmaceutical Licence examination, Tuesday, March 24; Pharmaceutical Assistant examination, Monday March 30; Registered Druggist examination, Tuesday March 31.

Drug-tender Accepted.

Messrs. Seymour (Limited) have been declared contractors for the supply of medicines, &c., to the Clare County Infirmary.

Another Branch.

Dr. J. C. McWalter, M.P.S.I., proprietor of Dr. Leonard's Medical Halls, Dublin, has opened a branch-pharmacy in Upper Sackville Street, close to the Rotunda.

Dispenser Appointed.

The Board of Governors of Mercer's Hospital, Dublin, have appointed Mr. George Brown as compounder of medicines, in place of Mr. Kelly, resigned. At the same meeting Messrs. Hirst & Co. were declared contractors for the supply of medicines and drugs, and Messrs. Thacker & Hoff for medical and surgical appliances.

An Opening Rush.

Messrs. Seymour & Co. (Limited), chemists, Ennis, opened their branch establishment at Milltown Malbay, co. Clare, on March 12. In connection with the announcement of the opening, notice was given that the firm would not be responsible for any accident that might occur, owing to the offer of a sovereign to the first purchaser.

Drug-tenders.

Tenders for drugs, medicines, and medical and surgical appliances are asked for by the following Boards of Guardians, the tenders to be sent in before the date given in each instance: Athlone (March 21), Ballycastle (March 17), Castlebar (March 21), Balrothery (March 18), Mountmellick (March 21), Youghal (March 19), Tobbereury, co. Sligo (March 16), Kinsale (March 18), Ballinasloe (March 21), Shakesdown (March 20), Kilmallock (March 20), Magherafelt (March 19), Newtownards (March 21), Coleraine (March 21), Millstreet (March 20), Monaghan (March 23), Mallow (March 20), Celbridge (March 21).

Irish Drugs.

The L.G.B. do not take kindly to the suggestion of Messrs. Leslie that only Irish drugs should be bought by Boards of Guardians. The Limerick and Castleblayney Boards of Guardians have been informed by the Local Government Board that giving preference to tenders for Irish manufactured drugs, medicines, &c., might seriously affect the ratepayers, and the Board would be bound to consider whether recompense would be allowed the Guardians in respect of the articles so procured.

Recalling a Recommendation.

About thirty years ago, when practising exclusively as an analytical chemist, Sir Charles A. Cameron, Dublin, gave a testimonial about Earl's pepine. He has recently had his attention drawn to the fact that the proprietor is using the recommendation in advertisements, and now that Sir Charles is a Fellow of the College of Surgeons in Ireland he objects, and, writing to the *Lancet*, says he shall apply for an injunction if the advertisement of his testimonial is not discontinued.

Indispensable Drugs.

The L.G.B. having complained that the medical officer of the Mallow Board of Guardians was ordering proprietary articles not on the schedule, Dr. M. Sheehan was asked to explain. Dr. Sheehan has replied that he never orders any drugs but what he considers absolutely necessary for his patients. The drugs to which exception was taken by the L.G.B. are utropine and creolin, 4 oz. of the former costing 10s., and the latter 4s. The doctor adds that if he does not get these drugs he will have to provide them out of his own pocket. The Guardians considered the letter satisfactory.

Work for the L.G.B.

The Carlow Board of Guardians have been told by the L.G.B. that they are extravagant in the matter of drug orders, and in the event of a repetition of any similar extravagant orders an inquiry will be ordered into the whole matter. The Chairman said the Guardians have no means of knowing whether orders are reasonable or not. If they curtailed the supplies of medicines they would have the doctors complaining. After a discussion the Board made an order expressing appreciation of the action of the L.G.B. in endeavouring to control the expenditure for medicines, &c., and asking what means they should adopt in future to check the quantities of medicines, drugs, &c., coming to the workhouse. They further ordered that the requisitions should be sent in two clear days before the Board-meeting, and asked the assistance of the L.G.B. in supervising the medical and surgical requisites prior to the goods being ordered from the contractors.

Irish Education.

The report of the Royal Commission on University Education, which was issued on March 11, recommends (1) that the Royal University should be converted into a teaching University; (2) that it should be a Federal University with constituent colleges; (3) that these colleges should be the three Queen's Colleges at Belfast, Cork, and Galway, and a new college for Roman Catholics be appointed at Dublin. Additional propositions are (1) that a liberal increase be made in the endowment and equipment of Queen's College, Belfast, but not in the Queen's Colleges at Cork and Galway "until in altered circumstances they give evidence of increased utility"; (2) that the Law Schools at Cork and Galway be abolished, and the Medical School at Galway be limited to the first two years of the medical curriculum; (3) that degrees be open to women on the same terms as to men, and that residential halls be opened at Dublin and Belfast; (4) that overlapping should be avoided, and better provision be made for higher technical education at Belfast.

LOON-SATT was a term used in this country a hundred years ago or more to represent 13½d. Mr. Bradley, one of the editors of the Oxford Dictionary, has found the word and its meaning in a "Dictionary of the Canting Crew," published near the end of the seventeenth century, and he asks the readers of *Notes and Queries* to help him to discover its origin. We call 13½d. things "patents," and we feel that we are treating them too respectfully. Would it relieve our minds at all to call them Loon-Satts?

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Public Notice.

Mr. Thomas Weir, chemist and druggist, 59 Great Junction Street, Leith, has executed a trust deed for behoof of his creditors in favour of Mr. James Paterson, C.A., 2 York Buildings, Edinburgh, to whom all claims should be sent.

The Pharmaceutical Council Election.

It is reported that Mr. James Mackenzie, Forrest Road, Edinburgh, is the latest candidate for the Pharmaceutical Council. This makes four; but if need be another three candidates can be supplied, so as to save English members the trouble of putting up for the seats, and to give the six retiring English members a rest.

A Wedding-gift.

Mr. T. Connell Smith, chemist and druggist, of the firm of Messrs. T. & H. Smith & Co., Edinburgh, has been presented with a handsome solid silver epergne by the employés of the



firm in Edinburgh and Glasgow, on the occasion of his marriage. The presentation was made by Mr. James Smiles, Blandfield Chemical-works, the senior member of the staff.

Aberdeen Dispensary.

At the annual meeting, held on March 5, Baillie Taggart, in moving the adoption of the report, stated that poor people who were unable to pay for their drugs were enabled to get them at the dispensary for nothing. The total number of prescriptions dispensed during the year was 44,077, or a daily average of 140. Subsequently Dr. Thomas Fraser, assistant to the Professor of Materia Medica in the Aberdeen University, was appointed a medical officer to the dispensary, vice Dr. Dalgarno, resigned.

An Alleged Dispensing-error.

Before Sheriff Rutherford, at Edinburgh Sheriff Criminal Court on March 6, Alexander Wood, Newburgh, Aberdeenshire, was charged with having, on December 13 last, "he being assistant in the shop of James Grant Anderson, chemist and druggist, 37 Trinity Road, Leith, and being charged with the duty of compounding six powders, each of which was to be composed of 5 gr. of quinine sulphate, 5 gr. of phenacetin, and 1 gr. of exalgin, for administration as medicine to the now deceased Edith Lucy Hope Robson, then residing at 10 Netherby Road, Leith, in compounding said powders, instead of using exalgin used strychnine, which is a dangerous poison," with the result that Mrs. Robson, after partaking of the powders, died of poisoning by strychnine, and accused was charged with killing her. Wood pleaded not guilty, and the trial was fixed for March 16 at Edinburgh High Court.

Dundee Notes.

Complaints as to cutting in pharmaceutical products are growing in the town.

Mr. Charles Kerr, pharmaceutical chemist, starts this month for a tour in the East.

"Carramon"—one of the Dundee cough-cures—is said to have been disposed of by Mr. Greenhill, chemist and druggist, Overgate, to a syndicate.

The proprietors of a white-heather perfume have been active lately in proceedings for alleged infringement of their trade-mark, and some mutual arrangement amongst retailers for their protection in this matter is suggested.

Mr. John Gray (Davidson & Gray, chemists, Nethergate, Dundee) has bought the large block of buildings situated at the top of Sea Wynd and Nethergate, consisting of three handsome shops, a dancing-hall, a photographic studio, offices, and work-rooms. The price is said to be between 6,000*l.* and 7,000*l.* Davidson & Gray's pharmacy has been in the corner shop since the late Mr. J. N. Davidson started the business.

Glasgow Notes.

Mr. J. P. Gilmour is opening his new pharmacy at 312 Cathcart Road, Glasgow.

Mr. Alexander Goddie has been appointed manager of the chemical department of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society (Limited), Shieldhall, Govan.

Mr. W. L. Currie's Election Committee consists of Messrs. Sutherland, McMillan, Boyd, Peacock, Minchie, Moir, Gilmour, G. Robertson, and A. McNaught (Greenock).

The Trade Association's "As you were" pronouncement has not produced any revolution in prices as yet. There seems to be considerable unwillingness to go back to the ante-tariff starvation rates.

The Assistants' Association have had a remarkably successful session, and the committee, who evidently mingle prevision with precaution, are already booking lecturing and other engagements for 1903-4.

A local chemist was recently told by a city friend that a prescription which he had got dispensed for 1*s.* 10*d.* in the West-end was charged only 1*s.* in a central store. The prescription was for a mixture containing 5*ij.* of lactopeptine. Becky Sharp's solution of the problem of how to live on nothing a year was not a "circumstance" to this.

Mr. J. R. Hill had two meetings, one in the forenoon and the second at night, with the chemists of Glasgow and the West of Scotland on Friday, March 6. Both meetings were well attended, and uncompromisingly hostile to the obnoxious recommendations of the Poisons Committee's majority report. Mr. Chater, from headquarters, was present, and both he and Mr. Hill were in "grand form."

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent)

IN THE UPPER HOUSE.—M. Limouzain-Laplanche's election as Senator has raised the number of pharmacists in the French Senate to three, his colleagues being M. Duval and M. Peytral. It is hardly necessary to remind readers of the *C. & D.* that M. Berthelot also sits in the Senate, as well as M. Poirrier, of the St.-Denis Chemical-works.

THE SERUM WILL NOT BE WASTED.—A baby of ten months having died in Algeria from diphtheria, after administration of antidiphtheritic serum, the doctor was understood to regret that the local pharmacist had supplied serum some nine months in bottle, hinting that more recently prepared serum might have given better results. The pharmacist sent the remaining phial of the same date back to the Institut Pasteur, Paris, and Dr. Roux has replied that "antidiphtheritic serum . . . keeps all its efficacy for at least a year. At the Pasteur Hospital we even give preference to old serum, and use it whenever possible. We shall utilise the phial you return."

SOCIETY NEWS.—The Society of Pharmacists of Rouen and Seine Inférieure have celebrated their centenary by the issue of an album containing, among other interesting items,

photos of the armorial bearings and the "jetons," or tokens, of the ancient Corporation, and of the medal struck to commemorate this the first centenary of its kind in France.—"The Syndicate of Preparators in Pharmacy" is the new name adopted by the ex-"Syndical Association of Pharmacy-assistants" ("Élèves en pharmacie"). While the general object of the Association—the amelioration of the lot of the chemist's assistant—remains unaltered, the "bureau" has been entirely changed, and the Society starts afresh under new leaders and new "statutes" as well as a new title.

A SECRET.—The *Petit Bleu*, a Parisian daily whose motto is "No politics: all news," sent one of its reporters to interview M. Hubault, a pharmacist, on the sugar question. M. Hubault obligingly explained that saccharin has 400 times the sweetening quality of sugar, but that the Act of 1902 forbids its sale except on doctor's prescription for diabetic patients. Then the reporter waxed indiscreet and asked, "And for this saccharin you charge?" "A franc for ten cachets, each of 10 centigrammes." "That means with enormous profit of—" "Hush! these are professional secrets. Don't go and report that," said the pharmacist. Needless to say, the fact that saccharin should cost about 70*fr.* the kilo was next day duly set before the readers of the *Petit Bleu*.

PHARMACISTS HONOURED.—M. Riffaud, a naval and colonial pharmacist of twenty-three years' standing, who went through the yellow-fever epidemic of the Senegal in 1882, and has since served in Tonkin, &c., has been created Chevalier of the Legion of Honour. Pharmacists were also numerous among the recipients of the last distribution of violet ribbons made by the Minister of Public Instruction. Among those decorated were M. Midy, a well-known pharmacist of the St. Honoré quarter of Paris, and M. Marie, who presides over the Tribunal de Commerce at Avignon. Of the six pharmacists promoted to the violet rosette of "Officer" of Public Instruction, four are Parisians: M. Dorvault, chemist, of Paris; Dr. Lafay, who will be familiar to readers of the Winter Issue; MM. Vaudin and Masson; and two provincials—M. Belugou, of Montpellier, and M. Bouchet, of Poitiers.

THE NEW PHARMACY LAW is attracting much attention not only in the pharmaceutical but the popular Press. The *Petit Parisien* devotes a long article to the question of the obsolete character of the law of Germinal. Pointing out that the pharmacist who sells a pennyworth of medicine without a prescription is technically liable to punishment, the paper tells the following anecdote: "A pharmacist was prosecuted in a provincial court by some busybody for having supplied pectoral syrup without a prescription. His lawyer asked the Judge: 'When you have a cold, Monsieur le Président, what do you do?' 'My learned friend, I buy pectoral syrup—and take it.' 'You buy it without prescription, and you consider it quite natural it is supplied without difficulty. You thus cause the law to be broken.' 'Possibly; but that's not my business. Let them bring my pharmacist here, and I will sentence him.'"

THE TERRORS OF CHEMISTRY.—A Parisian lady of mature age, who has a hopeful grandson who is studying chemistry with all the fervour and exaggeration of youth, poured a woful tale into the sympathetic ear of her favourite pharmacien here the other day. The snowy-white wainscot and woodwork of her "modern-style" apartment had been condemned by the young chemist as a "deadly specimen of white-lead painting," her green bed-curtains as "impregnated with arsenic—there would be another Danval case in her apartment one day no doubt." Her chimney he regards as full of the subtle fumes that so prematurely terminated Zola's existence, and her economical proposal to black a pair of brown boots for winter wear as "the newest form of *felo de se* by aniline pedi-cide." At last the old lady sought refuge in religion. "In church, at least, I feel safe," she remarked. "My dear grandma," rejoined the youthful *savant*, "is it possible that you have not read M. Leclerc de Pasigny's proposal to replace chromate of lead, the dangerous poison so largely used in making church textile ornaments and hangings, by chromate of zinc? Are you aware that the hangings of the church of St. X— are dyed with chromate of lead because it resists the action of light and damp and keeps out insects better than the harmless aniline yellow?" At last the poor lady bethought her of her favourite pharmacien, who supplied the needful antidote.

Colonial and Foreign News.

COLOMBIAN IMPORT-DUTIES.—The Board of Trade has received information through the Foreign Office to the effect that, from March 1, the import-duties leviable in the Republic of Colombia have been increased tenfold.

IN SPITE OF REVOLUTIONS.—The trouble in Morocco has not daunted the intrepid pharmacist, for we now learn that another pharmacy has been opened in Main Street, Tangier, opposite the Roman Catholic Church, in the name of Central Pharmacy. It is under the management of Mr. Ernest F. Bonich, "C.D.A.H. (London)."

VIENNA BOTANICAL CONGRESS.—A congress will be held in Vienna from June 12 to 18, 1905. Dr. Richard von Wettstein and Dr. Jules Wiesner are to be the presidents, and Dr. E. Hackel and Dr. Hans Molisch, of Prague, vice-presidents. All correspondence should be addressed to the secretary, Dr. A. Zahlbruckner, Vienna, I. Burgring 7.

CO-OPERATIVE BUYING.—It has spread to Germany, for we learn that a buying association of pharmacists has been formed in Berlin. It was registered on February 21 with the name "Einkaufsvereinigung der Apotheker Berlins m.b. H." (Buying association of Berlin pharmacists). The capital is 37,000m. and the association numbers a hundred and thirty-two members. The office is at 16 Friedrichstrasse, and business begins on March 15.

EX-PRIME MINISTER AS PHARMACIST.—Count Thun, formerly President of the Austrian Ministry, is the owner of a pharmacist's concession in Tetschen, which had not been used for nearly a hundred years. He recently decided to make use of his concession, and to open a pharmacy. The Austrian Pharmaceutical Society objected and petitioned the governing authorities, who decided against them. The Count then opened his shop, which is managed by a qualified assistant.

IN RUSSIA.—A new Russian pharmaceutical society has been formally inaugurated at St. Petersburg under the name of Northern Pharmaceutical Society. Its purpose is to represent and protect scientific and trade interests, to assist members in obtaining employment, and to support old and needy pharmacists. Mr. A. Vogt has been appointed president. The Society has at present 127 actual members, amongst whom are a few of the leading pharmacists in business. The funds are as yet but small, amounting to about 1,300r.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION AT ST. PETERSBURG.—An international exhibition of photography will be held from April 30 to June 13, 1903, by the Photographic Society of St. Petersburg. It will be divided into six sections, viz.:—

(1) Scientific photography, application of the same to natural sciences, astronomy, medicine, &c.; (2) artistic photography; (3) photo-mechanical printing—viz., heliotyping, phototyping, engraving, zinc-engraving, photo-ceramics, three coloured printing, &c.; (4) literature relating to photography—viz., books, periodicals, handbooks, manuals, &c.; (5) application of photography to technical purposes—viz., to architecture, building, industry, as well as to educational and juridical purposes; and (6) photographic industry—viz., instruments, materials, implements, apparatus, &c.

Exhibits will be received to March 14, 1903.

THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN TARIFF.—The new tariff which has just been published contains many alterations of interest to chemical-manufacturers, and the duties in several instances have been substantially raised. Among the articles free of duty are the following: Crude camphor, sulphur (stick, ground, flowers), phosphorus, mercury, antimony, antimony regulus, carnauba wax and other hard vegetable wax (under prescribed conditions), phosphoric acid, crude boric acid, and crude borax, tartar, wine-lees, potassium chloride, sodium nitrate, calcium citrate and tartrate, magnesium chloride, antimony sulphide, and superphosphates. Prepared medicinal substances show a slight reduction, and alcoholic aromatic essences have been advanced from 178 57kr. to 300kr. per 100 kilos. An advantage of the new tariff is a fuller and better classification, and especially a removal of the many anomalies by which a manufactured article either paid no duty or the same or less than the raw materials from which

it was produced. The tariff is published in full in the last February number of the *Journal* of the Society of Chemical Industry.

MUSEUM DONATIONS.—According to a report issued by the directors of the Pharmaceutical Museum at Nuremberg, the total receipts in 1902 amounted to 1,772 57m., of which 500m. were given by the Deutscher Apotheker Verein, and 1,272 57m. is contributed by pharmacists, corporations, and chemical-works. Of this sum 1,485 57m. was devoted to paying off debit balance of the previous year, and 287m. for purchases in 1902. Nineteen pharmaceutical works were bought, including the Pharmacopœia Londinensis, quinta editio, 1639; Pharmacopœia Bruxellensis, Brüssel, 1644; Pharmacopœia Ultrajectina, 1659; Pharmacopœia Hagiensis, 1659; and the Pharmacia Autverpiensis galeno-chymica, 1661. A number of hand-written recipe-books and twenty-two volumes of literary works were presented to the museum. Owing to the extensive purchases of books in 1902, there is a deficit of 423 94m. The report concludes by expressing the hope that the work will be carried on on the same lines after the deficit has been cleared, and that the museum will have the advantage of the first offers of suitable objects. This, the directors complain, has not been the case hitherto, as a number of ancient vessels bearing coloured representations of their contents have been sold to England and thus for ever lost to the Fatherland. The museum has been on the look-out for such vessels for a long time, and would be grateful for information concerning any.

Festivities.

A DISPENSERS' SMOKER.

The third annual smoking-concert of the Public Dispensers' Association was held at Stone's Restaurant, The Broadway, Ludgate Circus, E.C., on March 11, Mr. Alderman Idris, J.P., L.C.C. (President of the Association), being in the chair. There was a large attendance of members and their friends, and, as an excellent programme had been provided, a very enjoyable evening was spent. The items included humorous songs by Messrs. Harry Bourne, G. H. Phillip, and Franklyn Vernon, while M. Regollo excelled in legerdemain and chapeaugraphy. Mr. Walter Lombarto was concertina soloist, and Messrs. Roland and Hawtreay Goldfinch gave selections from the old English ballads.

FOR CHARITY.

The festival dinner in aid of the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum will be held at the Hôtel Métropole on March 31, the Lord Mayor of London presiding. Urgent appeals are being made to raise 20,000l. for the asylum. Amongst others Sir Reginald Hanson has promised 500l. (on condition that 5,000l. is raised), Mr. Samuel Figgis (S. Figgis & Co., produce-brokers, Fenchurch Street, E.C.) has contributed 100l., and Viscount Duncannon (chairman of Bovril, Limited) 20l. The Duke of Connaught is President of the institution; Sir Reginald Hanson is treasurer, and will receive subscriptions or donations, or they may be sent to Mr. H. W. Tatum, 62 King William Street, E.C., the secretary and superintendent.

"THE 42 CANNON STREET SOCIAL EVENING."

That was the name of it, and it was as pleasant as its sounds. It was at Seyd's Hotel on March 6; its purpose to give play to the musical and terpsichorean talent which will occasionally rise superior to card systems and postal districts, coloured supplements and winter sessions. We do not suppose that the world at large is dying to hear who were there, or solicits points as to the making-up of an enjoyable evening; but, as we have occasionally recorded how the sterner members of the staff entertained themselves, it is only right we should note that the first office in London to employ ladies, for work previously reserved for men, came out strong on Friday evening of last week. At supper the South African Commissioner, who has travelled other parts of the globe on behalf of "42," was able to assure his colleagues, when he replied to the toast of "The Ladies," that nowhere had he met so fair women and brave men as those whom he addressed. Kind of him, was it not?

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

EVENING MEETING.

THE President delayed commencing the evening meeting held on March 10, to give the late-comers a chance, but even then, when order was rapped at ten minutes past 8, the total number present was under forty. With the preliminary announcement that apologies for absence had been received from Professor H. G. Greenish and that Professor Wynne was ill with influenza, the PRESIDENT called on Mr. A. G. C. Paterson (Butt scholar) to read his paper on

THE ASH OF IPEACACUANHA-ROOT.

Mr. PATERSON explained that his work had been undertaken at the suggestion of the General Medical Council, who are anxious to know whether the determination of the ash yields any trustworthy indications of the purity of a drug. For the purpose of the inquiry drugs were divided into three classes—(1) Potent drugs which would generally be bought in powder, owing to the difficulty of economically operating on a small scale, such as senna, ipecacuanha, rhubarb, and jalap; (2) toxic drugs, which are rarely used in any but coarse powder in the preparation of galenicals, this including such drugs as aconite and belladonna; (3) drugs which are neither toxic nor used in fine powder, such as sumbul, serpentary, and cascara. The drugs of Class 1 are naturally the most important, and ipecacuanha was chosen as a suitable drug to operate upon. Mr. Paterson then noted the kinds of ipecacuanha—the Brazilian and Cartagena—which may contain varying proportions of stem and sand or the rhizomes of other drugs. Of the last named, which may find their way into the powdered drug, there have been noted *Ionidium Ipecacuanha*, *Psychotria emetica*, *Cryptocoryne spiralis*, and *Richardsonia scabra*. The following table shows the average results obtained from a large number of samples of entire drug, powdered drug, and the ipecacuanha-substitutes noted above:—

—	Moisture, %	Ash	Insoluble in HCl	Soluble in HCl
Brazilian ipecacuanha ...	11.35	2.96	0.421	2.54
Cartagena ipecacuanha...	11.48	4.37	1.26	3.11
Ipecacuanha-substitutes	—	4.8	0.613	4.187
Commercial powder ...	11.01	4.59	1.47	3.03

The ash limit mentioned by Mr. J. C. Umney was 5 per cent., somewhat high Mr. Paterson thinks; and although the ash of ipecacuanha is an insufficient criterion of its purity, to guard against the presence of much sand it might be required that three-fourths of the ash should be soluble in hydrochloric acid. The results of this research are thus stated:

- (1) Total ash is but a slight clue to the nature of the powdered drug.
- (2) More than 1 per cent. of insoluble ash indicates that the drug is dirty or contains sand or other objectionable matter.
- (3) The microscopical characters of the powdered drug do not satisfactorily allow of a distinction between Brazilian and Cartagena ipecacuanha.
- (4) The relative proportion of cephaeline and emetine easily distinguishes between the varieties.

Mr. J. C. UMNEY, after congratulating the reader of the paper, said, in reference to the ash limit, he (the speaker) had proposed that perhaps $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. would have been better, but the object had been not to set an unattainable average. He would like to know if the author had estimated the varying percentages of starch in ipecacuanha; Johore, for instance, contains half as much again as the Brazilian varieties. It would be interesting, also, to know how the conclusion that *ionidium* or *Richardsonia scabra* was present in powdered ipecacuanha was arrived at.

Mr. PATERSON, in reply, said he was unable to find any of the adulterants mentioned in samples of powder he had examined, but it is on record that French and Belgian powders have been found to contain them. He had not estimated the starch contents of the samples examined.

The PRESIDENT next called on Mr. Walter H. Lenton (Butt scholar) for his paper on

THE EXHAUSTION OF SOME OFFICIAL DRUGS BY PERCOLATION.

Mr. LENTON first gave an historical survey of the preparation of liquid extracts, which Caspari considers were originated in England, as English preparations of this class were known in America in 1834. The P.L., 1851, contains only one liquid extract—sarsaparilla—but this preparation had been official in the Edinburgh and Dublin Pharmacopœias of previous dates. The U.S.P., 1850, contained seven fluid extracts, as did also the B.P., 1864. From then till the 1885 edition very little advance had been made in making liquid extracts, but, on the other hand, the idea made rapid strides in America. Thirty years ago, at an evening meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society, Mr. C. Umney exhibited specimens of fluid extracts prepared according to the U.S.P., each fluid ounce representing an ounce of the crude drug. In the B.P., 1885, percolation was adopted for most of the fluid extracts, and the menstruum was varied according to the nature of the drug. Further improvements were introduced in the 1898 edition, but it must be admitted that there is still much room for improvement. The general plan followed in the official processes is to moisten the drug with a certain specified quantity of menstruum, percolating and reserving the first percolate, evaporating the remainder, adding it to the reserve, and finally completing the volume of the product. The details, however, vary considerably, for whilst in the case of hamamelis and hydrastis eight parts of menstruum are taken to moisten twenty parts of drug, cimicifuga and coca have no less than 40 oz. for the same quantity. It was the questions of the quantity of menstruum to use for moistening, and whether or no the highest proportion of active constituents is contained in the first percolate, which Mr. Lenton set himself to investigate. Katz, Menlenhoff, and Smeets have made observations as to the quantity of menstruum to use for moistening, and the last named found that the smaller quantity favoured early exhaustion.

Experiments were first made with liquid extract of coca. It was found that the most satisfactory results were obtained with a quarter the quantity of moistening menstruum, both as to the condition of the drug before packing in the percolator and in the high proportion of alkaloid in the first percolate, and it is suggested that the official monograph be altered to read "Moisten the powdered coca-leaves with 10 fl. oz. (or 500 c.c.) of the alcohol and set aside," &c.

Liquid extract of cimicifuga was next taken in hand, and in the absence of any assay process determinations of the total soluble matter were made. The result of the experiments is that the best proportion of menstruum to use for moistening is $\frac{1}{2}$ fluid part to 1 part of drug, the alteration to the official monograph being "Moisten the cimicifuga with 10 fl. oz. (or 500 c.c.) of the alcohol," &c. Pressure-maceration in the case of coca was not much improvement on the official method, and with cimicifuga the results were not so good.

Considering that liniment of aconite is prepared in a similar manner to that of the two liquid extracts, experiments were made with aconite-root with similar objects in view. The root used assayed to 0.62 per cent. of alkaloid. From experiments Mr. Lenton finds that the best proportion of menstruum for moistening is $\frac{1}{2}$ fluid part of 90-per-cent. alcohol, for each part by weight of drug. A larger yield of alkaloid was obtained, and the powder was easier to pack in the percolator, the moisture being just enough to cause coherence on compression.

The conclusion was therefore arrived at that for each drug there is probably an optimum of menstruum to moisten, which needs to be found out by actual experiment.

Mr. J. C. UMNEY inquired whether any estimates were made of the amount of alkaloid in the finished product, so as to show whether the heat to which some of the percolates were subjected is injurious.

Mr. C. G. Moor mentioned that Barclay had suggested 0.25 grams per 100 c.c. of ether-soluble alkaloid as a standard in lin. aconiti. He (the speaker) had recently examined four samples, and found 0.18, 0.28, 0.22, and 0.30 grams per 100 c.c. respectively, showing that Barclay's suggestion is reasonable. The last sample was known to have been prepared from English aconite, but the source of the first three was unknown. In no case had he been able to extract any crystalline aconitine or to form any crystalline salts.

Mr. WALTER HILLS said the paper was an eminently practical one. Such experimental work should be done long before the next Pharmacopœia was due to appear, so that other workers could confirm the results.

Mr. LENTON, in reply, said he had not gone into the interesting question of the destruction of alkaloid in the processes for liquid extract. He had estimated the total amount of alkaloid in samples of liniment, but had not obtained a crystalline product.

The last paper was by Mr. Wm. Garsed (Salters' Research Fellow) on

SODIUM SULPHITE: THE OFFICIAL QUANTITATIVE TEST.

Mr. Garsed said that in using the official test—"each gram dissolved in 5 c.c. of water should decolorise not less than 77.7 nor more than 81.7 c.c.'s of the volumetric solution of iodine"—he found that the results varied according to the rate at which the iodine was run in and the quantity of alkali present. Some pure sodium sulphite was first prepared, care being taken in storing to exclude air. Ten c.c.'s of a 1-in-50 solution of sodium sulphite was then prepared and volumetrically estimated. When the iodine was run in fast the mean of three experiments was 96.9 per cent., but when the test-solution was run in at the rate of three drops per second the percentage came out at 95.7. An odour of sulphur dioxide is given off during the process, due to the action of iodic acid on unacted-upon sulphite, and the lower result may be due to a larger escape of sulphur dioxide. The next experiments were made using excess of sodium bicarbonate; no odour of sulphur dioxide could be distinguished, but the percentage of purity came out lower still—95.5 and 94.1 respectively. To ascertain if the loss is due to oxidation, titrations were done in which extra precautions were taken to prevent oxidation; the results, however, were not much better. Different strengths of solution were then tried, oxygen being excluded by performing the titrations in the presence of coal-gas, but it was found that dilution makes practically no difference. Narrow-mouthed flasks were used. Mr. Garsed next described the methyl-orange and mineral-acid method of volumetric estimation, using N_{10} sulphuric acid when a result showing a purity of 97.3 per cent. was obtained. Finally Mr. Garsed spoke of Giles and Shearer's method, which he finds yields a high percentage (98.9), and is easy of application. The procedure which Giles and Shearer recommended, and which Mr. Garsed suggested should find a place in the official monograph, is as follows: The sulphite is weighed out on a watch-glass and introduced at once, without dissolving it in water into a known excess of decinormal iodine; after stirring till the reaction is complete, excess of iodine is determined by decinormal thiosulphate and starch; a second experiment is then made in which a slight excess only of the N_{10} iodine, as indicated by the first trial, is employed, and titration carried out as before. The sample of salt used was found by precipitating with barium chloride to contain 0.96 of sodium sulphate, so that the results obtained may be taken to be practically those required by the ry.

There was no discussion on this paper.

The PRESIDENT, in proposing a vote of thanks to the authors of the papers, said that was the last meeting of the session owing to the occurrence of Easter in the early part of April. He paid a tribute to the liberality of Mr. E. Northway Butt (who was present) and the Salters' Company for the scholarships which were the means of obtaining the papers.

Mr. WALTER HILLS seconded the vote of thanks, and also referred to the good work which the scholars were doing.

The vote was carried, and the audience filed off to the examination-hall for cake and coffee.

Trade Notes.

THIS month's issue of *Practical Advertising* (Mather & Crowther, Limited, 10, 11 and 12 New Bridge Street, Ludgate Circus, E.C.) is as smart as any of the previous issues, and contains some new ideas on advertising.

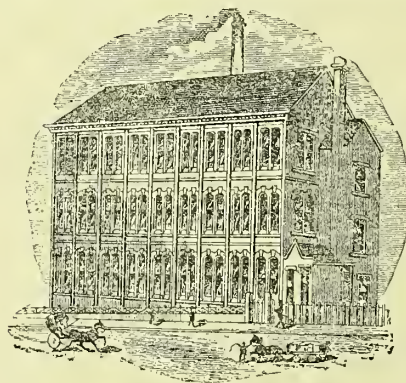
MEDICATED WINES.—Messrs. Eduardo et Cie., 21 Finsbury Pavement, E.C., send us samples of Dr. Hale's meat-and-malt wine and Dr. Hale's coca-wine, which have been before the trade some time now. The specimens before us are clear red wines, and the flavour is irreproachable.

THE business of Harry W. Cox (Limited) at 10 Cursitor Street, W.C., has grown so much since Mr. H. W. Cox, the principal, began to specialise in *x-ray* apparatus that the company have had to again extend their premises. They have recently fitted out a number of H.M.'s ships with complete *x-ray* outfits, and are also making a speciality of high-frequency current apparatus. Particulars may be obtained from the above address.

A NEAT PROPRIETARY-MEDICINE CATALOGUE, with mineral waters, perfumery, and druggists' sundries as extras, has been published this week by Messrs. William Edwards & Son, 157 Queen Victoria Street, E.C. It is the annual issue, and is bigger than ever. What we particularly like about it is the arrangement whereby protected articles are seen at a glance, because they are printed in bold block type. A copy of the catalogue will be sent to any *C. & D.* subscriber who sends a trade-card to the firm.

CHLORETONE, manufactured by Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., seems to be a good thing for sea-sickness. Dr. J. W. Fawcitt, of Broughton-in-Furness, writes in the *Lancet* regarding his personal experiences with it when crossing the North Sea. He is a bad sailor, but before leaving the Humber he took 5 gr., and on retiring to his berth 10 gr. more. During the night and all next day it blew hard, with a nasty cross sea, yet he was perfectly comfortable and did not miss a meal. He gave chloretone to other passengers with a similar happy result. The remedy was taken in 5-gr. capsules.

ELASTIC SURGICAL GOODS.—A new factory for the manufacture of surgical hosiery has just been completed at Carlton, Notts, for Messrs. Thos. Glover & Son. The firm of Thos. Glover & Son has been established nearly seventy years, and was in 1893 purchased by Mr. Vincent Wood, Victoria House, Albion Place, Blackfriars Bridge, London, S.E. In 1894 Mr. Wood arranged an amalgama-



tion with the business of Mr. Brettell, who was the proprietor of a flourishing business in Carlton. The new firm purchased the businesses of the Surgical Hosiery Company, Nottingham, and Thos. Huckerby, of Carlton, which were likewise merged in the firm of Thos. Glover & Son. The inconvenience of having the various processes carried on in different places determined the proprietors to erect a large factory where the different departments could be worked under one roof. The new factory, begun in 1902, is now complete. The factory, which is of imposing appearance, comprises three floors, with engine-house, and is built of red brick. On the ground floor are the rubber-mills, where the

clastic threads are covered with cotton or silk. Level with this room is the engine-house, containing a new 10-horse power gas-engine, whilst on the ground floor are also the necessary commercial offices. On the first floor are a number of Singer's sewing-machines, all driven by power, and here also is Mr. Brettle's private office. On the second floor are the frames whereon the cotton or silk covered elastic is woven into webbing. The new factory is well designed, and it is to be noted that provision has been made in the purchase of additional ground for subsequent extension of the business. A word should be said for the manner in which the comfort of the workpeople has been considered. Besides various conveniences in one part of the building a kitchen with gas cooking-apparatus has been fitted up for their benefit.

THE AVERAGE FOUNTAIN-PEN—and we write from experience of many of them—has two marked disadvantages,

which make one return to pens which are not fountains of ink in a literal sense. Perhaps the worst feature of fountain-pens is that when they have not been used for some time they refuse to write without a lot of shaking, and what is called the "feed" gets out of order now and then. These disadvantages have, we believe, been met by Mr. Morris W. Moore in the non-leakable fountain-pen, a section of which is shown on the margin of this note. The pen does not differ in appearance from those that have been on the British market for some years, but the section shows how different the principle is. It will be seen that when the pen is not in use the nib is pulled down into the barrel of ink (one may re-fill at this point), and the cap is screwed over the nozzle, whereby a little cone or stopper in the top of the cap plugs the nozzle, and so prevents the ink from oozing out, no matter in what position the pen is laid down or carried. There are several styles of the pen, all being handsomely turned out and fitted with gold nibs. Doctors, chemists, and others who use pens intermittently will find them just what they want, and chemists who wish to stock the pens can be supplied on trade terms by Moore's Non-leakable Fountain-pen Company, 23 Fore Street Avenue, E.C.



SOME NEW THINGS in pharmaceutical specialties have been submitted to us by the Medical and General Specialities Company, 300 Clapham Road, S.W. Boyd's pine-hop tonic bitters possesses a good flavour of pineapple, and is, we are told, actually prepared from the fruit. The bitters is pale yellow in colour, and the reason for adding pineapple-juice is to obtain the benefit of a digestive principle—bromelin—present in the fruit. The pine-hop tonic bitters is used as an appetiser

and tonic digestive. A series of antiseptic perfumes is the next item. The natural disinfectant properties of perfumes are enhanced in the case of Boyd's antiseptic perfumes by the addition of a suitable germicide, but we cannot detect that the refreshing odours of lavender-water or eau de Cologne are interfered with in an appreciable degree. The perfumes are not made from synthetic products, but pure essential oils. The other speciality we have before us is Boyd's banana malted food, which contains banana-flour and has a pleasant odour of that fruit. Banana is credited with nourishing and digestive properties, which make it a suitable addition to an infant's or invalid's food. Particulars of these goods will be given to readers of the *C. & D.* who apply. The firm also inform us that they are offering an attractive showcard to their chemist customers.

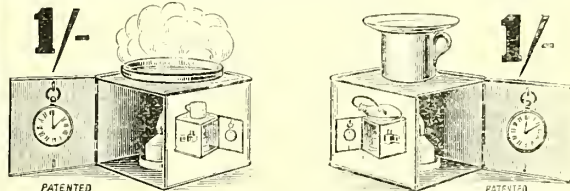
KODAK GOODS.—The Photographic Trade Association have issued a circular to their members in reference to the recent Kodak cases, in which occurs the following statement:—

It is quite clear that any manufacturer, wholesaler, or retail dealer is at liberty to supply any make of film to fit Kodak's (Limited) cameras, and may refer to the name of the camera for which it is required, provided such words as "Suitable for," "Adapted for use in," "To fit," or "For" are used in conjunction with the name of the camera.

Should a customer ask for a "Kodak," "Brownie," or "Ball's-eye" film, or use any of their abbreviations, such as "F.P.K.,"

&c, without specifying any special make, dealers and their assistants are warned not to supply films of another make than those sold by Kodak (Limited) without making it quite clear that the films supplied are not those of Kodak's (Limited) manufacture. In all written orders, invoices, and receipts for goods other than those of Kodak (Limited) it is advisable to avoid the use of Kodak's (Limited) trade names.

A **LITTLE BUT POPULAR NOVELTY**, which is being extensively advertised just now and is in rapid demand, is figured here. It is a food-warmer for use without water. It consists of a decorated metal box, within which is placed a night-light, and on the top a tray to hold a feeding-bottle, cup of milk, or anything else which has to be kept hot. It also makes an excellent vaporiser, the liquid being placed in the metal tray, as shown in the figure. The apparatus



can be used either end up. What will particularly appeal to many is the provision for holding one's watch, which is thus kept at body warmth all night as well as all day (an essential for good timekeeping), and to see the time one merely opens the door of the apparatus. The little novelty sells at 1s., and is put on the market by the Bedside Watch-holder Company, 4 Franklin Road, Harrogate.

SPECIALITIES OF THE MOMENT.—A representative of our staff went down to Ash Grove, Hackney, N.E., the other day to make inquiries concerning the new agricultural and horticultural specialties Messrs. W. J. Bush & Co. (Limited) are placing on the market. He first shook hands with Mr. James Bush, just returned from Moscow, and discussed with him the findings of the Poisons Committee. Mr. Bush indicated the sympathies of his firm and of himself for the rights of the qualified chemist and druggist. This goodwill was accentuated on the arrival of Mr. Alfred Bush, who was conversant with the report, and sided with the chemist. He thought the argument put forward by the Crossites that chemists are not competent to advise horticulturists as to what to use for their plants and how to use it, was particularly weak. The average chemist, as everyone knows, is a much better educated man, and knows much more about horticulture, than the average ironmonger. The policy of Messrs. Bush & Co., he assured our representative, is entirely "in favour of the chemist, and this he proved by the fact that in all the advertisements placed by his firm for their new lines of horticultural specialties the purchaser is recommended to buy from the chemist. The specialties include a spraying and sponging compound (for destroying aphides, American blight, red spiders, caterpillars, &c.), a fumigating compound, a nicotine sheep and cattle dip, and ascellide (for destroying earwigs, woodlice, &c.). These are all prepared under the direction of Mr. J. O. Braithwaite, chemist to Messrs. Bush, the sheep-dip being standardised to contain 0.5 per cent of nicotine, as used by the United States Government in their public stockyards and for dipping sheep quarantined for scab. One quart of the dip (which is liquid) is sufficient for 100 gals. of water to cure scab or lice, and the advantages claimed are perfect miscibility with water and complete permeation to the skin. The spraying compound (1 gal. to 100 gals. water make an effective insecticide) is put up in cans covered with blue paper, to which bold-printed poison labels and directions are affixed. The shoulders of the cans are painted red, and "Poison" in white lettering is painted on there as well. An ingenious and efficient spraying-apparatus is also supplied, the quart size costing 6s., with the usual discount. All these preparations are efficiently labelled and their poisonous properties made evident without being obtrusive. A 4-oz. bottle of fumigating compound will fumigate 8,000 cubic feet of greenhouse at a cost of 4s. to the purchaser. This is packed in cartons, and fumigating lamps are also supplied. Ascellide is a paste, and is packed in tins labelled in blue and red like the others. Messrs. Bush have many other specialties of a similar character, the nicotine being prepared in bond at the company's works at Mitcham from duty-free tobacco.

Legal Reports.

Trade Law.

Incoming Tenants' Liability.—Last week Lords Justices Vaughan Williams, Stirling, and Mathew heard an appeal by the plaintiffs from the decision of the Divisional Court in the case of the Gas Light and Coke Company v. The Cannon Brewery Company. Plaintiffs had supplied gas to a grocer named Lowles, to whose business was attached an off-licence, and the grocer sold his business to the defendant company for 335*l.*, which was immediately handed over to the mortgagees. The brewery company continued the business carried on by Lowles, who at the time owed the gas company 10*l.*, which amount they sought to recover from the defendant company by virtue of Section 18 of the Gas Companies Act of 1872, which provides that in case any consumer leaves his premises without paying the gas rate or meter rent due from him, the company should not require from the next tenant of the premises payment of the arrears so left unpaid, unless the incoming tenant should continue the trade or business of the outgoing tenant, and should have paid to the owner, lessee, or mortgagee in possession, or to the outgoing tenant of such premises, a consideration for so doing. The Divisional Court upheld the decision of the County Court Judge, and gave judgment for the defendants, but their Lordships now reversed this decision, with costs, holding that under the word "require" in Section 18 the gas company has a right to sue the successor for arrears left unpaid by his predecessor.

High Court Cases.

DUKE OF NEWCASTLE v. TOWER OIL COMPANY (LIMITED).

IN the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, on February 28, Mr. Justice Byrne again had before him the motion, on behalf of the plaintiff, for the appointment of a receiver of the undertaking of the defendant company, which had stood over from time to time. The defendant company is in liquidation. It appeared that the Duke of Newcastle lent the company 10,000*l.* on a mortgage debenture. There was a question whether the debenture was authorised by the company and whether the company or the directors were liable. An arrangement had been come to by which the directors, who are to be indemnified out of the company's assets, agreed to submit to judgment for 10,000*l.*, the execution not to be enforced for three months. On the discussion of the minutes carrying out the arrangement, a difficulty arose as to whether the directors were liable for interest from the date of the winding-up as well as principal. The interest amounted to 250*l.*, and his Lordship suggested it should be split and the directors submit to judgment for 11,125*l.* Counsel on both sides thought that would be a good course, but owing to legal difficulties the matter could not then be definitely settled. Mr. Justice Byrne appointed a receiver, as asked, and made a declaration that the Duke of Newcastle was entitled to 10,000*l.*, with interest, out of the assets of the company. The matter was practically settled on these terms, but will come on again.

RHODAMINE DYE.

IN the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice on Friday last, Mr. Justice Joyce had before him an application by the defendants in the case of Badische Anilin und Soda Fabrik v. Chemische Fabrik that an order directing the service of a writ out of the jurisdiction on the defendants might be discharged. Mr. Asquith, K.C. (Mr. Colefax with him), said the action was brought for an injunction to restrain the defendants, their servants, and agents from importing into England, and from manufacturing, selling, or supplying in this country dyes made under a certain patent. The defendants were manufacturing chemists, and the plaintiffs held a patent for a dye called "Rhodamine 6 G." The application was made on the ground that the defendants were not within the jurisdiction of the Court, and the only question was whether they had done any act which would constitute an infringement of the patent. The writ was ordered to be served out of the jurisdiction on an affidavit of Mr. Johnson, who swore that for some years past the defendants had systematically infringed plaintiffs' patents on a considerable scale, and they had sent travellers with samples of the dye to call on dealers and consumers. Defendants visited consumers, but never called on non-

consumers, and no "Rhodamine 6 G." had been sold by them. There was a specimen of the dye exhibited on the pattern-card, but no orders were solicited for it. Samples of the dye were sent to dealers in this country, but never to consumers, and any orders would be executed at Basle. In reply, Mr. Ehrhardt, the chemist of the plaintiffs, said the plaintiffs had found that the defendants had infringed their patent on a large scale. Mr. Asquith argued that the defendants by soliciting orders in this country from non-consumers had not infringed the patent, and that the service of the writ out of the jurisdiction ought to be set aside.

Mr. Justice Joyce, without calling on Mr. Cripps, K.C., and Mr. Graham for the plaintiffs, said the application was a very serious one. He must treat the patent as good, and the plaintiffs to succeed must show infringement in England. He was not going to decide the point on this application, but it was admitted that defendants got orders here from non-consumers for delivery abroad. He thought that was part of the process of "vending," and he declined to stay the action, and refused the motion, with costs.

CONDAL WATER SHARES.

ON Friday, March 6, before Mr. Justice Wright, in the King's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice, the action of Condal Water (Limited) v. Mate and another was heard. Mr. F. W. Firminger was for plaintiff, Mr. T. Howell for the defendant Mate, and Mr. McCall, K.C., for the other defendant, Mr. Henry Moffett, trading as Allan Quatermain. The plaintiff company, in their pleadings, claimed from Mate, or alternately from Moffett, 500*l.*, for 400 preference and 600 ordinary shares in Condal Water (Limited), or the re-transfer of the shares to the company. Their case was that they handed the certificates of the shares to the defendants and that they, having failed to sell them, refused to re-transfer them. Mr. Mate's defence was to the effect that he was clerk to a firm of stockbrokers and that he had been instructed to sell the shares at a price not less than 10*s.* each. For the purposes of the sale the shares were vested in him. The shares had not been sold by him, and they were brought into court to abide the decision of the learned Judge. Mr. Moffett's defence was that Mr. H. Sherwood Norris, in respect of an indebtedness to him of 211*l.* for rent and of 13*l.* for goods sold to him in August, 1901, verbally agreed that the shares in question should be transferred to the defendant Mate, in trust, to be sold as against his (Morris's) debt. It had been found impossible to sell the shares at 10*s.* each, and the indebtedness of Norris to Moffett still continued. The plaintiffs denied that Sherwood was indebted to Moffett or that he had verbally agreed to transfer the shares to be sold, the shares not being his property but the property of the company. After hearing some evidence his Lordship dismissed the action, with costs.

Mr. Justice Buckley, sitting on Tuesday in the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice for the disposal of companies winding-up business, had before him a petition by Henry Gaze & Son (Limited) for the compulsory winding-up of the Condal Water (1900), Limited. It was stated, however, that there were debentures which covered the whole of the assets, and the petition was directed to stand over for a fortnight with a view to ascertaining the company's position.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE.

AT Darlington on March 2, Sarah M. Armstrong, a shop-keeper, was charged with selling sweet spirit of nitre 36 per cent. deficient in ethyl nitrite. Mr. T. M. Barron, who defended, called evidence to show that it is impossible, under any circumstances, to keep the spirit from losing strength. The Bench, after a brief consultation, decided there had been no fraud, and dismissed the summons.

IRON PILLS.

AT North London Police Court on Friday, March 6, the hearing was resumed of the summons against Mr. George Templeman, chemist and druggist, Devonshire Road, Holloway, for selling iron pills, deficient to the extent of 65 per cent. in ferrous carbonate. Mr. A. M. Bramall prosecuted for the Islington Borough Council, and Mr. Kirby defended.

Mr. Kirby now said : This case, your Worship will remember, was adjourned so as to submit some of the pills to the analysts of Somerset House. Their report is against us, and I am afraid I cannot go any further.

Mr. Bramall : There was a question at the last hearing as to whether the public analyst had taken the coating of the pill into consideration when making his examination. I have inquired as to that, and am told that he removed the coating before he made the analysis. Had he not done so, probably the percentage of deficiency would have been greater.

Mr. Fordham (the Magistrate) : There is no suggestion that the mere coating of the pill contained iron, is there ?

Mr. Kirby : My client had a full belief that the pills contained all the elements they should, and, therefore, he was anxious to know what the facts really were. Consequently, he paid for the independent analysis.

Mr. Bramall : It is important that such pills should be what they purport to be. They are prescribed for anæmic people, but when there is a deficiency of 65 per cent. they are practically useless. The medical officer is here, and will tell you that.

Mr. Fordham : The pills would be practically useless unless double the quantity were taken.

Mr. Bramall : It would need to be three times the ordinary dose, and that would not be very nice.

Mr. Fordham : That depends upon whether a person is fond of taking pills. (Laughter.)

Mr. Kirby : My client sold the pills as he got them, and in the full belief that they were the genuine article.

Mr. Bramall : I should like to know if he paid a fair price for them proportionate to what he sold them for. There has been a conviction in another court for the same kind of thing, and if these pills came from the same wholesale house perhaps the defendant will go into the box and tell us who the people are. I cannot bring the people here, but the defendant can go against them for putting him into the position of having to stand in court as defendant to-day. It is really what he ought to do, and if he declines to do that it is so much the more, I submit, against him.

Mr. Kirby thought Mr. Bramall was taking up a position which was not justified by the facts.

Mr. Bramall : Would you like to have the opinion of the medical officer as to the value of these pills ?

Mr. Kirby : They are value for money, according to what we paid for them. And I might ask Inspector Ward, now he is in the box, if it is not a fact that he also purchased some iodine at the shop of my client, and found it all right ?

Inspector Ward : Yes.

Mr. Kirby : And you have bought other things at the shop which were also according to the British Pharmacopœia ?

Inspector Ward : Not me.

Mr. Kirby : Then it was your predecessor.

For the defence Mr. Kirby said he should rely upon his client's twenty-eight years' unblemished trading. It was extremely unlikely, he said, that Mr. Templeman would do anything wilfully to put himself in this position. All he could say was that probably there was some mistake in the mixing of the pills, because, as he had said, the price they were sold at was fair as compared with what was paid for them. With regard to what Mr. Bramall had said as to the wholesale house that supplied the pills, he (Mr. Kirby) did not think he ought to disclose the name, because the makers were not English at all.

Mr. Fordham : That would be all the more reason for saying who they were.

Mr. Kirby : I think not. The wholesale house are not before you at all. It would not be wise for me to disclose their name, because the defendant cannot say that there was any warranty given with them. They are not, as I have said, of English origin.

Mr. Fordham : Pills are not the only undesirable things that come to this country from abroad. (Laughter.)

Mr. Kirby : In view of all the circumstances, I do not feel that I ought to disclose the name of the wholesale house who supplied the pills.

Mr. Fordham, without calling on Mr. Bramall, said : This is a serious matter, and I hope for the future the defendant will take care to sell pills which are made according to the British Pharmacopœia. People buy these things in the full belief that they will do them good ; and the doctors pre-

scribe them expecting that they contain the proper quantity of iron. But with such pills as these the patient gets no benefit, and the doctor's efforts are entirely in vain. I am just giving the defendant this caution, and if I have a similar case brought before me again I will impose a much severer penalty. Now it will be a fine of 5*l.* and 1*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* costs, or fourteen days.

ALUM BAKING-POWDER.

At the Shirehall, Norwich on March 7, Henry P. Rendall, a local grocer, was fined 20*l.*, or, in default, a month's imprisonment, for selling baking-powder which Mr. F. Sutton, the county analyst, certified to contain 43.68 per cent. of ground alum. The evidence for the prosecution was directed to show that this ingredient is injurious to health ; and Mr. Kent, for the defendant, endeavoured to persuade the Magistrates that it is not. He called no witnesses except the defendant to prove this ; but he said that in times past Mr. Sutton had strongly held the opinion that the use of alum was not deleterious to health.

County Court Cases.

COMMITTAL FOR FINES UNDER THE PHARMACY ACT.

At the Barnsley County Court on March 6, Judge Raikes, K.C., had before him an application by Mr. A. Neal, Sheffield, on behalf of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, for an order of committal on Frank J. Willey and George F. Willey, of King Street, Hoyland, for the non-payment of penalties. It was explained that in November last the defendants were each fined 5*l.* and costs for selling poisons, they not being registered chemists, and these penalties had not been paid. In the course of a lengthy legal argument Mr. Neal urged that his Honour had power to commit the defendants, and that there was no necessity for the Court to make any inquiry as to the means of the parties. The initial proceedings were taken under the Pharmacy Act, 1868, and this application was under the Debtors Act, 1869. The Society did not wish to deal harshly or vindictively with the defendants, but would agree to the payment of the fines by reasonable instalments, 10*s.* a week being suggested. For the defence, it was argued by Mr. Rideal that it was not clearly shown that it was not necessary for the plaintiffs to prove ability to pay, and he quoted cases in support of his contention. His Honour held that it was not necessary as a point of law to prove the existence of means, and he pointed out that defendants had actually made an offer to pay, when they agreed to the penalties three months ago. He ordered the payment of 30*s.* each forthwith, the remainder to be paid at the rate of 10*s.* per month. He also made an order for committal for twenty-one days, to be suspended so long as the terms of his judgment were adhered to.

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Craig, J., and Goody, E. S., under the style of Craig & Goody, Llandudno, Carnarvonshire, physicians and surgeons.

McGibbon, J., and Balfour, D. H., under the style of McGibbon & Balfour, Liverpool, physicians and surgeons.

Parsons, W., and Hapold, C., under the style of Parsons & Hapold, Blackheath, Kent, chemists and mineral-water manufacturers.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ORDER MADE ON APPLICATION FOR DISCHARGE.

Henry, John, trading with Evan Thomas Evans as T. E. Evans & Co., Pembroke Dock, Pembrokeshire, chemist, druggist, and wine, beer, and spirit merchant—discharge granted, but suspended for two years, ending February 3, 1905.

Bankruptcy Report.

Re GEORGE EDWARD HEATON, 39 Robertson Street, Hastings, Sussex, Chemist and Druggist.—The public examination of this bankrupt was held at the Hastings Bankruptcy Court on Tuesday, March 10, before Mr. Registrar Knight, when the particulars given in our issue of February 26, page 349, were repeated. The examination was adjourned. The statutory meeting of the creditors was subsequently held at the County Court Offices, 24 Cambridge Road, Hastings. The Official Receiver was in the chair. The debtor having no offer to make, it was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the Official Receiver as trustee. The following are creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Allee & Hanburys (Limited), London	10	1	3
Baiss Brothers & Stevenson (Limited), London	17	6	1
Butler & Crisp, London	17	9	8
Cleaver & Son, London	10	6	5
Cresswell Brothers & Co., London	10	12	2
Davy, Hill & Co., London	12	14	0
Eldridge & Son, Hastings	10	0	0
Evans Sons Lescher & Webb (Limited), London	13	11	10
Fry, R. & Co., Hastings	60	0	0
Kerfoot & Co. (Limited), Ashton-under-Lyne	10	6	8
Lynch & Co., London	17	0	0
Manners & Hopkinson, London	13	8	3
Newbery & Sons, London	29	12	3
Quelch, H. C., London	10	15	2
Richardson & Co., Leicester	18	5	2
Sanger & Sons, London	20	0	0
Schulze & Co., London	13	9	8
Wilkinson, J. F., Manchester	10	7	0
Wright, Layman & Umney (Limited), London	12	1	6

Deeds of Arrangement.

Forbes, Edward, 65 Newport Street, Bolton, Chemist and Druggist. Trustee, John E. D. Parker, 42 Castle Street, Liverpool, chartered accountant. Dated March 3; filed March 7. Liabilities unsecured, 164*l.* 1*s.*; estimated net assets, 70*l.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Bourne, Johnson & Latimer, London	10	0	0
Evans Sons Lescher & Webb (Limited), Liverpool	33	0	0
Hirst, Brooke & Hirst, Leeds	26	0	0
South African Loan Company, Bolton	11	0	0
Preferential creditors	12	0	0

Stuttard, Thomas, 97 Albert Road, Colne, Chemist and Druggist. Trustee, John Moorhouse, jun., 7 Manchester Road, Nelson, accountant. Dated February 26; filed March 4. Secured creditors, 1,200*l.*; liabilities unsecured, 868*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*; estimated net assets, 632*l.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Aerators (Limited), London	11	0	0
Maw, Son & Sons, London	18	0	0
Moorhouse, J., & Sons, Nelson	25	0	0
Parke, Davis & Co., London	16	0	0
Simcock, T. W., Leeds	11	0	0
Southall Brothers & Barclay (Limited), Birmingham	12	0	0
Thompson, J. (Limited), Liverpool	26	0	0
Thorp, W., Manchester	15	0	0
Vinolia Company (Limited), London	13	0	0
Wilkinson, J., Nelson	20	0	0
Woolley, J., Sons & Co., Manchester	11	0	0
Bankers' claims	439	0	0

DISHORNING-SUBSTITUTE.—There is likely to be a run on caustic potash by farmers now that it has been recommended in a Board of Agriculture pamphlet as a substitute for the painful process of dishorning cattle. When applied to the horn bud of young calves it stops growth, and the fattening process is more rapid. The hair is clipped from the top of the horn when the calf is from two to five days old and moist caustic rubbed into the tip of the horn-bud for fifteen seconds, the process being repeated for from two to four times at intervals of five minutes. If blood appears during any of the intervals one other slight rubbing only is necessary.

New Companies & Company News.

LIQUID SELF-MEASUREMENT COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital, 6,075*l.* in 6,000 shares of 1*l.* each and 6,000 shares of 3*d.* each. Objects: To acquire from Chubbe & Southey (Limited) and A. W. Southey the benefit of an existing invention relating to devices for measuring liquids, and to turn the same to account. No initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Remuneration according to profits (maximum in any year, 1,000*l.*, div.)

BECKWORTH & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 4,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of a mineral-water manufacturer carried on by W. B. Beckworth at Whitwick, Leicester, shire, and to carry on the business of brewers, maltsters, ale-brewers, and porter merchants, hop and corn growers and merchants, manufacturers of syrups and cordials, &c. No initial public issue. The first directors are J. C. S. Burditt, W. Brown, S. P. May, and C. W. Matthews. Qualification 50*l.* Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, Whitwick, Leicestershire.

RUBBER CHEMICAL COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 9,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of producers, workers, manufacturers, and manipulators of "reclaimed rubber," manufacturers of chemicals for mixing with indiarubber, workers, manufacturers, and manipulators of certain infusorial earths known as "Kieselguhr," manufacturers of indiarubber, gutta-percha, textile, leather, canvas, and waterproof goods, &c. The first directors are E. J. Byrne and B. J. Ebbworth. Qualification 100 shares. Registered office, Council Chambers, Colmore Row, Birmingham.

G. W. LAUGHTON & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares (4,000 preference). Objects: To acquire the business of rubber, rubber-substitute, and re-covered rubber manufacturers' manufacturers of chloride of sulphur and all chemicals used in the manufacture of indiarubber goods, &c., now carried on by G. W. Laughton, at Croft Street and Chatham Street, Clayton, near Manchester, and elsewhere, as "G. W. Laughton & Co.," and to carry on the same and the business of chemists, drysalers, oil and colour men, &c. No initial public issue. The first directors are G. W. Laughton (managing director), E. A. Fasnacht, and B. Whittaker. G. W. Laughton may retain office as long as he holds shares of 4,000*l.* Ordinary qualification, 50*l.*

EUBIOSE COMPANY (LIMITED). Capital 2,500*l.* in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with E. Cruesemann and to carry on the business of artificial food and chemical manufacturers, chemists, druggists, drysalers, oil and colour men, importers and manufacturers of chemical, medicinal, and other preparations and proprietary articles, makers of and dealers in photographic, surgical, and scientific apparatus and materials, &c. The first subscribers are:—G. Cruesemann, 75 Allyn Park, Dulwich, S.E., merchant; G. R. Schöber, 19 Stamford Hill, N., merchant; L. J. Sangster, 4 Shanklin Road, Crouch End, N., clerk; R. Nordheim, 28 Davies Street, W., clerk; P. F. Rouse, 85 Gracechurch Street, E.C., solicitor; A. G. Norris, 144 Minard Road, Catford, S.E., clerk; and O. Horcher, 1 Mortimer Road, Kensal Rise, W., clerk. No initial public issue. The first directors are G. Cruesemann, G. R. Schöber, and O. von Willemoes-Stuhm. Qualification, 100 shares.

PERMIOL MANUFACTURING COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 4,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemical manufacturers and dealers, drysalers, oil and colour men, chemists, druggists, manufacturers of and dealers in chemicals, industrial, pharmaceutical, medicinal, and other preparations, compounds, cements, oils, paints, pigments, varnishes, &c., and to adopt an agreement with R. G. Brooke. The first subscribers are:—S. T. Woodhouse, the Gables, Knutsford, accountant; J. E. Darbishire, 25 Victoria Street, S.W., engineer; H. Holden, Kelwall, Cheshire, engineer; R. G. Brooke, Upton Grange, Macclesfield, engineer; G. E. Lund, 7 Brazenose Street, Manchester, solicitor; A. Tongue, 86 King Street, Manchester, F.C.A.; and B. Collier, 162 King Street, Manchester, F.C.A. No initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, ten shares. Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, 16 Heywood Street, West Gorton, Manchester.

RENSON MANUFACTURING COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 8,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares (6,000 6 per cent. cumulative preference). Objects: To carry on the business of chemical and drug manufacturers, importers of, dealers in, and agents for the sale of chemical products and by-products, owners of mines and properties capable of supplying natural chemical products, &c. The first subscribers are: A. I. van Zwanenberg, 74 Highbury New Park, N., manufacturing chemist; R. Simpson, 5 Welby Road, Knatchbull Road, S.E., manufacturing chemist; E. F. Cossor, 32 Tabley Road, Parkhurst Road, N., accountant; A. E. Spearman, 70 Elgin Avenue, Maida Vale, W., accountant; A. Thomas, 22 Coppermill Lane, Walthamstow, clerk; J. Farrell, 77 Khedive Road, Forest.

Gate, E., accountant; and R. James, 96 Canrobert Street, Hackney Road, N.E., clerk. No initial public issue. Registered without articles of association.

W. LAMBERT & Co. (LIMITED).—Capital 6,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with C. Sanger, E. P. Sanger, Ann M. Sanger, W. G. Hoff, J. Sanger, W. Sanger, C. P. Sanger, Henry Sanger, F. Sanger, Ernest Sanger, Edward Sanger, Jessy Sanger, Amy D. Sanger, and Hubert Sanger, to take over the business of manufacturers of and dealers in medicines and preparations now carried on as "W. Lambert & Co.," and to carry on the same and the business of druggists' sundriesmen, chemists, druggists, chemical-manufacturers, drysalters, &c. The first subscribers (each with one share) are: C. Sanger, Bureote, Weybridge, Surrey, wholesale warehouseman; E. P. Sanger, 6 St. Margaret's Terrace, St. Leonards-on-Sea, wholesale warehouseman; C. P. Sanger, 5 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C., barrister; W. Sanger, Craigour, Lovelace Gardens, Surbiton, civil servant; Henry Sanger, 14 Hrbury Crescent, W., wholesale warehouseman; Ernest Sanger, 2 Mandeville Place, W., wholesale warehouseman; and Jessy A. Sanger, Bureote, Weybridge, Surrey. No initial public issue. The first directors are C. Sanger, E. P. Sanger, H. Sanger, E. Sanger, and W. Sanger. The two first named are permanent. Qualification, 200*l.* Remuneration, 5 per cent. on the gross sales, divisible. Registered office, Seymour Works, 49 Lime Grove, Shepherd's Bush, W.

THE LEADER PHARMACY COMPANY, Toronto, has been incorporated with a capital of \$10 000, to manufacture and deal in drugs, chemicals, and druggists' wares. The provisional directors include M. J. Singer, S. Singer, and A. C. Thompson, all of Toronto.

EVANS SONS LESCHER & WEBB (COLONIAL), LIMITED.—In our report of the formation of this company (*C. & D.*, March 7, page 399) the names "J. H. E. Jones" and "J. V. Jones" were inadvertently printed, instead of J. H. E. Evans and J. N. Evans respectively.

CIVIL SERVICE SUPPLY ASSOCIATION (LIMITED).—The report for 1902 states that the total gross income for the year was 267,596*l.* After allowing for various expenses the net balance was 49,490*l.*, plus 5 261*l.* brought forward from last year. An interim dividend of 12*s.* in respect of every 10 *l.* shares, together with the proper proportion of interest on the reserve fund, as paid in August last, is again recommended; 4,000*l.* to be transferred to the reserve fund; 1,500*l.* to the pension and gratuity fund and 500*l.* to the employees' provident fund; leaving 6 225*l.* to be carried forward. As soon as the contemplated removal of the Central Savings Department to West Kennington has been carried out, more than 3 000 civil servants will be employed in the great buildings which have been erected there, and anxiety has been expressed that the committee should make provision for enabling the large number of them who are members of the association to obtain ordinary articles of consumption from a depot in their own neighbourhood. The committee has not felt justified in embarking upon a large venture in West Kensington, but freehold premises, large enough to admit of provisions, meat, groceries, wine, tobacco and drugs being supplied, have been secured within a few yards of Addison Road Station and quite close to the new Savings Bank. These premises are now being fitted up, and will be ready for business in a few weeks.

Business Changes.

HILL'S DRUG-STORES are about to open at 31 Falcon Road, Battersea, S.W.

MR. THOMAS SWALES has started business as a druggists' sundriesman at 24 Butt Court, Leeds.

MR. F. H. BARTLETT, chemist and druggist, has acquired premises at 236 Battersea Park Road, S.W.

MESSRS. MARTIN & Co., pharmaceutical chemists, have recently opened a pharmacy at 60 Old Compton Street, W.

MR. C. GARRETT, chemist and druggist, has purchased from Mr. F. G. Brice his branch business at Wigston, Leicester.

THE TIMOTHY WHITE COMPANY, chemists, have taken premises in The Arcade, Bognor, which they will open shortly as a pharmacy.

MR. A. J. HEALD, chemist and druggist, Burnham, Bucks, has sold his business to Mr. G. R. Foulston, chemist and druggist, Hull.

MR. E. M. STEVENS, chemist and druggist, is closing his pharmacy in High Street, Dover, and transferring the prescription-books to Mr. Brown, Cannon Street.

MR. C. H. BARD, chemist and druggist, formerly of Exe Bridge, Exeter, has removed to Cowick Street, St. Thomas, Exeter, to make way for the bridge-improvements.

MR. J. M. CORFE has sold the Shaft Pharmacy, Dover, to Mr. Oswald F. Dunford, chemist and druggist, Chertsey. Mr. Corfe has returned to his father's business at Maidstone.

MR. E. A. HOLLOWAY, chemist and druggist, late of Torquay and London, has taken a double shop in High Street, Southend-on-Sea, which he is to open as a cash-drug stores.

MESSRS. OLIVER & Co. (LIMITED), pharmaceutical chemists, have taken premises at 147 Fore Street, Edmon- ton, N., which they will open immediately alterations are completed.

MR. J. ADDISON, chemist and druggist, has just opened a fine new shop in South Road, Bishop Auckland. Messrs. Southall Brothers & Barclay (Limited) fitted it for him in handsome style.

MR. FRANK E. BUCKINGHAM, pharmaceutical chemist, has taken the business in Red Lion Street, Aylsham, carried on for many years by Mr. D. Goddard Nicholson, chemist and druggist, who has retired.

MR. W. H. DELVE, chemist and druggist, 310 Stretford Road, Manchester, has purchased the prescription-books of the old-established business lately carried on by Mr. T. S. Slater at 254 Stretford Road, Manchester.

MR. W. T. MARTIN, chemist and druggist, of Lewes and Newhaven, has taken premises at 57 Terminus Road, Eastbourne, which he will open in due course under the designation of the "Gildridge Pharmacy."

MR. WILFRID LEAN, pharmaceutical chemist, has again acquired the old-established chemist's business at 24 Port Street, Bengeworth. Meanwhile he is offering a large portion of the old stock at less than half the cost price.

MR. W. J. FARREN, chemist and druggist, manager of Messrs. Barron & Co.'s pharmacy at Chapel Road, Worthing, will shortly take over the proprietorship of the business, which will be carried on under the present style and title.

MR. T. BURNETT, chemist and druggist, 116 West Derby Road, Liverpool, has taken over the old-established business formerly carried on by Mr. B. Dickins at 221 West Derby Road, Liverpool, which he will carry on as a branch under a qualified manager.

MESSRS. J. F. ANDREWS & Co., chemists, Carlisle Road and Grand Hotel Buildings, Eastbourne, are having a soda-water fountain installed by Messrs. Stiles, Gray's Inn Road, W.C., at their Carlisle Road pharmacy—the first to be erected for a chemist in Eastbourne.

MR. J. H. COLEMAN, chemist and druggist, 7 Worcester Street, Wolverhampton, has purchased from Mr. D. M. Lloyd the business in Brickkiln Street (corner of Humber Road), and he intends to carry it on as a branch. Mr. J. H. Coleman is the third generation of the Colman family occupying the shop in Worcester Street.

In addition to obtaining a product with proteolytic properties from the papaw-tree, attention has been drawn to the fact that there is a widespread practice amongst the natives of hanging meat in the shade of the tree to render the meat tender. Mr. Percy Groom asks, in *Nature*, whether there may not be some gaseous product given off from the tree which exerts an antiseptic action on putrefactive bacteria.

BURNS.—As a local application there is no more prompt and beneficial drug than picric acid. Applied in 1-per cent. watery solution, it has the effect of giving almost immediate relief from pain, and healing takes place rapidly under its use. After the burned area has been coated once or twice with the solution a thin layer of absorbent cotton may be applied dry, over this a layer of impervious tissue, then as much cotton as is required for warmth, protection, exclusion of air and germs, &c., and over this a loose bandage.—*Pediatrics*.

Scientific Progress.

New Urotropine.—Under the name of new urotropine a compound of hexamethylene-tetramine with anhydro-methyl-citric acid, containing 40.7 per cent. of the base, has been placed on the market. It is proposed as a milder and efficacious form of administering urotropin.

A New Reagent for Aldehydes.—Freund and Schander (*Berichte*, 35, 2602) state that thiosemicarbazide is an excellent reagent for aldehydes and ketones. The resulting compounds, the thiosemicarbazones are analogous to the ordinary semicarbazones, of which the antialdehyde-compound has the following constitution: $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}:\text{N}:\text{NH}:\text{CS}:\text{NH}_2$.

A Reaction for Formaldehyde.—According to Manget and Marion formic aldehyde in the merest traces may be detected by adding amidol to the suspected liquid, when a condensation-product is formed of a yellow colour. This is most marked in the case of milk, which in the absence of formic aldehyde takes a faint pink colour with amidol (*Comptes Rendus*, 1902, 135).

Arteol.—It is difficult to understand why the normal alcoholic constituents of sandal-wood oil, usually known as santalol, should be now brought out again under the name of arteol, accompanied by the statement that the normal sandal-wood oils of commerce contain 30 to 90 per cent. of arteol. No genuine sandal-wood oil contains less than 90 per cent. of alcohols, and there appears to be no advantage in using the expensive fractionated alcohols in place of the pure oil.

True Verbena Oil.—Theulier (*Bull. Soc. Chim.*, 1902, 1113), has examined a sample of true vervain oil distilled in pans, and shows that its characters are entirely different from those of ordinary lemongrass oil. The sp. gr. was 0.919, and optical rotation $-16^\circ 20'$. It contained 11.2 per cent. of esters calculated as linalyl acetate, and only 25 per cent. of aldehydes. He has isolated from the oil (1) citral, (2) levolimonene, (3) guaiol, (4) a sesquiterpene.

The Determination of Potassium.—The usual method for determining potassium depends on the comparative insolubility of its chloroplatinate. This method is expensive and not too accurate. Reichard (*Ch-m. Central.*, 1902, 79) states that the picrate is less soluble than the chloroplatinate, and is better suited to the determination. A neutral solution of at least 2 per cent. must be used, and the precipitated picrate should only be washed with water and dried at 80°C . Thirty-nine parts of potassium are present in 267 parts of picrate.

The Constitution of the Aloins.—Léger (*Journal de Pharmacie*, 1903, 52) publishes a further instalment of his work on the aloins, dealing with the constitution of the compounds of this group. He points out that barbaloin and isobarbaloin yield the same product by oxidation by sodium peroxide. The main oxidation-product is methyl-isoxychrysin, and if the two aloins are first chlorinated they yield the same tetrachloro-compound on oxidation. They therefore contain a common nucleus. Both aloins also yield a product of oxidation which appears to be an aldopentose. These facts, taken in conjunction with other properties of the aloins, cause Léger to assign to barbaloin a very complex formula, in which three adjacent benzene-rings are present, with a side-chain of a carbohydrate nature. This explains the fact that the aloins, whilst being isomeric with the true glucoside, frangulin, are not hydrolysed by acids. They are, in fact, ether-oxides. The work is progressing, and Léger hopes ere long to be in a position to assign constitutional formulæ to the other isomeric aloins.

Analysis of Urine.—An important paper by Freund and Felbner, dealing with the estimation of the nitrogenous constituents of urine, appears in the *Zeitschrift für Physiologische Chemie* (xxxvi, 401). The method used depends on the fact that all the nitrogenous compounds in urine can be precipitated by means of excess of mercuric chloride in presence of carbonate of soda. But by varying the conditions a fractional precipitation can be obtained. (1) Uric acid and xanthic bases. The solution should be faintly acid. Fifty c.c. of urine are used, and five drops of sodium sulpho-alizarinate added. Then a few drops of dilute hydrochloric acid, and finally a solution of mercuric chloride to effect complete precipitation. A little acetate of soda and acetic acid are then added, when all the uric acid and xanthates are found in the precipitate. (2) An equal volume of 50-per-cent. acetate-of-soda solution is next added to the filtrate. The creatinine is found in the precipitate now formed, and is determined by Kjeldahl's process. (3) The urea is precipitated in alkaline solution after getting rid of the uric acid. The conditions, which are detailed, must be exactly observed. After filtration the alkaline solution is treated with excess of mercuric chloride, when hippuric acid and the remaining nitrogenous bodies are precipitated.

The Kaleidoscope.



His Citadel.

Dr. Symes could not help feeling that a chemist is exceedingly unwise, seeing that he is surrounded by so many dangers of this sort, in not joining the Chemists' Defence Association.—*C. & D.*, March 7, 1903, page 387-8.

An Old Formulary.

A QUAIN old recipe-book, written from 1788 to 1816, was recently submitted to us by one of our readers. It is an oblong calf-bound volume, the pages—of hand-made paper—being interleaved with what was once probably pink blotting-paper. The recipes collected by Andrew Nott are not all strictly pharmaceutical, the medical formulæ being mixed in a rather irreverent way with directions for brewing and the method of dressing turtle. Passing over the innumerable recipes for boot-top liquids, blacking, and plate-powder, which do not differ materially from the modern preparations, a recipe for rheumatism arrests our attention. The ingredients are rhubarb, guaiacum, nitre, brimstone, and treacle, and the recipe being dated 1816, it may be regarded as one of the earliest formulæ for Chelsea Pensioner. Next follow more remedies; one of these, prepared by putting a glass of port wine between two pewter plates overnight and mixing with a little powdered rhubarb, reminds us that pewter plates have a medicinal value superior to the earthenware plates of to-day. A scurvy-mixture is a decoction of burdock-root and sassafras, and for headache one remedy is 20 drops of tincture of castor in half a goblet of water. Turlington's balsam and a gout-cordial similar to the old tinct. aloes co. are remnants of old pharmacy, and of the cough-remedies the most interesting is one in which hartshorn-shavings, "figgs," and rum enter into the composition. The use of corrosive sublimate for beautifying the face is evidently very old, for here in the eighteenth century a few drops of a solution of mercuric chloride in lavender-water is directed to be used as a face-wash.

AMONG the Lkuügen Indians of Vancouver Island an infallible means of making your hair grow long is to rub it with fish oil and the pulverised fruit of a particular kind of poplar (*Populus trichocarpa*). As the fruit grows a long way up the tree, it cannot fail to make your hair grow long, too.—*The Golden Bough*.

Observations and Reflections.

BY XRAYSER.

The Privy Council

will bear with equanimity the introduction of the Pharmacy Bill into the House of Commons by an unofficial member. The President of the Pharmaceutical Society, the Treasurer, and their supporters seem to fear that this course may be construed by "his Grace" as an "unfriendly action." There is not the remotest danger of that. The Pharmaceutical Society is not the Empire of Russia, nor can it hope to be placed in Government estimation on the plane of the Republic of Venezuela. The Privy Council can baulk our projects, no doubt; so can we theirs. The game to play for is a Select Committee, where such evidence as was accepted by the Privy Council Committee would find its proper level; and the only way to arrive at this result is to get our Bill before Parliament along with that from the Privy Council. It is important to make known our claims. Mr. John Morley says he has not "happened" to see the poisons report. Members of Parliament are more likely to happen to see Bills than drafts, or even Blue-books.

The Board of Agriculture

was emancipated from the control of the Privy Council and created an independent department in 1889. It may not be just now the happiest moment to write its eulogy, and its best friends would hardly select its connection with the recent Poisons Committee as the best evidence of its usefulness. But the Board of Agriculture has done, and is doing, a great deal of useful work in an unostentatious manner. By the publication of its quarterly journal, and by the free circulation of millions of leaflets on insect-pests, on fungi, on birds useful to agriculture, on poultry-diseases, on Acts of Parliament of importance to farmers, and on cognate subjects, it has sought to promote the interests of the greatest of our national industries, but, as Mr. Crawford sadly told the Committee, after all these efforts people are still to be found who are not even aware of the existence of a Board of Agriculture. It is true that since the Board began its career more than a million acres of agricultural land have gone out of cultivation in the United Kingdom, which does not look as if its efforts were very successful, but, for all that, I think the Board has earned its cost, which reaches nearly 100,000*l.* a year. Last year's charges amounted to 95,718*l.*

A Minister of Commerce

ought to be as useful to the nation, argue certain M.P.s, as a Minister of Agriculture; and the demand for this addition to the Cabinet staff was put forward in the House of Commons last week. It was not shown, however, what more a Minister of Commerce could do to foster British industries than the Board of Trade and the Foreign Office are doing now, beyond drawing an extra salary. Germans and Italians, it was said, are more alive to the commercial potentialities of the Uganda Railway than are our merchants, and this was credited to their ministries of commerce. If the statement is true it shows that British manufacturers want something which no Cabinet Minister can ever give them.

The Kodak Judgment

will commend itself, I should think, to most retail dealers in photographic goods. Kodak is an excellent specimen of an invented word—meaningless in itself, but easy to say and remember; and one of the strongest of the defendants' arguments was to the effect that it had fulfilled its purpose only too well. That the

public had come to regard it as descriptive of a certain kind of camera, and that it had attained the dignity of being used as a verb, are definite evidence of its establishment in the English language. It was, I think, the counsel for the defence who put the plaintiffs' claim in the form of a neat aphorism. "They admit," he said, "that we may sell other makes than theirs as a film for a Kodak, but we may not sell them as a Kodak film." The company evidently adopt this distinction, for they urge the public to ask for their goods by the latter form. This seems to give competitors all the chance they can fairly expect, and it becomes difficult to realise why such a position should have been so pertinaciously contested.

Wren v. Hill,

a case which came before the Court of Appeal on the 3rd of this month, is, I must admit, dead against the comment which was made on this page last week in reference to the hot-water bottle action at Liverpool. I mention it here because I notice that the Liverpool Chemists' Association have agreed to assist Mr. Last to appeal against the judgment given against him. In *Wren v. Hill* a man got a judgment for 50*l.* damages against a publican who had sold him a glass of beer which, it afterwards transpired, contained arsenic, and which consequently made the man ill. This judgment was given by Mr. Justice Wills, and the Court of Appeal confirmed it. It is not apparent how Mr. Last's case can be legally distinguished from this one so as to secure a reversal of the judgment.

The New Chemistry

is the title of an article in the *March Cornhill Magazine* by Mr. W. A. Shenstone, F.R.S., briefly referred to by the *C. & D.* last week. It is not so easy to explain ions to the magazine-reader as atoms; they are less substantial and tangible, and I do not think Mr. Shenstone has entirely succeeded. His article is sometimes popular and sometimes learned, but, perhaps inevitably, the two styles do not seem to blend quite happily. Just at the end, however, the author ventures on rhetoric, which is risky. He has been describing the atomic theory of Dalton and the ion hypothesis of Clausius, and he shows that neither of these fully satisfies the facts discovered since their conception. "Yet neither of these hypotheses," Mr. Shenstone adds, "is really dead. No! Great scientific theories do not die. They are transformed, elevated, step by step, to higher planes. For is there not an element of truth in every one of them?" Well, no: most of the great scientific theories of the past are as dead as last year's roses. They had not a trace of truth in them, and they only served to hamper progress. The phlogiston theory, the theory of the philosopher's stone, the Ptolemaic theory of the solar system, and nine-tenths of the old medical theories are cases in point.

The Antiquity of Businesses

is a subject which is attracting the attention of some of the correspondents of *Notes and Queries*. One writer remarks on the staying capacity manifested "among wholesale druggists and the analogous trade of drysaltery." (Kindred trade would be a better expression.) He names among the former Messrs. Corbyn & Co., who date from earlier than 1730, and among the ancient drysaltery firms Messrs. Pott, of Southwark, who claim to have existed since 1635, are specified. The havoc that a century effects on business-records is really astonishing. Not one business in a hundred of those that get fairly established can live out a hundred years in any form, and of these few scarcely any has been maintained by direct descent. But the following, told by one of the *Notes and Queries* correspondents, looks like a record. He says, "There was not long ago a medical man at Colleshill who represented a family of medical men established in that town from father to son since the Restoration at least." Can anybody beat that? In the past prosperity seems to have been as fatal to the longevity of businesses as adversity; now a days the canker is the stores.

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Editorial Comments.

Unripe Fruit.

THE present position of pharmacy and poisons legislation is peculiar. The Prime Minister assured Colonel Long, last Friday, that the report of the Committee on Poisons is "under consideration, with a view to legislation at the earliest possible opportunity." There is nothing new about this: we were able, on the authority of the Privy Council Office, to say so in our issue of three weeks ago (see *C. & D.*, February 21, p. 308). Our mentors in Bloomsbury Square seem to regard Mr. Balfour's statement as an important development, and the "Divisional Officers of the Society" have been informed of it. Attention might also have been called to the fact that Colonel Long is member for the Evesham division of Worcester, and his question may safely be regarded as an indication that Mr. Dobbs is not inactive. Mr. Dobbs is a Worcester solicitor, and is satisfied with the manner in which the Committee on Poisons reported. He would have liked poisons for technical purposes to have figured in the recommendations, but does not sit down and cry because a part only of his suggestions found favour with the Committee. He now takes that part, and works it well. Mr. Twinberrow's letter on p. 454 is another indication of Mr. Dobbs's activity. Chemists and druggists can checkmate his subtle efforts by writing to their members of Parliament. Such a statement as the following might be incorporated:—"A Departmental Committee has recommended on very inadequate evidence that the sale of certain poisons used in agriculture and horticulture does not require the qualified supervision entailed by the Pharmacy Act. One of these

poisons is arsenic, which is the subject of a special statute. The Privy Council has on more than one occasion endeavoured to get Parliamentary sanction for measures to relax the restrictions on the sale of poisons, but has invariably failed. I have said that the Committee's evidence is inadequate, because the leading manufacturers of sheep-dip were not called as witnesses, and there is good reason to believe that they are satisfied that the present legal means of qualified distribution is ample and causes no inconvenience. The Prime Minister has stated that legislation will be initiated at the earliest opportunity. I propose, when the Government Bill is produced, to take the liberty to write to you again, but in the meantime I have thought it advisable to ask you to be so good as to reserve your opinion upon the question involved."

There need be no hesitation at this juncture in doing everything possible to fight the Privy Council's proposals. The Pharmacy Bill is not yet in sight at Westminster, and as long as the attempts are made to undermine the rock on which the Act is built, it is waste of time to bother about repairs to the structure. At any rate, we do not think the Pharmacy Bill workable; it is complicated and unnecessarily restrictive. Its chief points are as follows:—

The titles question is not specifically touched, but a disabling clause makes it an offence for any company, firm, co-partnership, or body of persons to commit any act or omission (except selling or keeping open shop for the sale, &c., of poisons) which would be an offence if committed by a person.

This strikes at the use of titles, and not only at companies using them, but at the other bodies of persons mentioned. In Scotland, we understand, a firm is like a limited company, not *persona*, so that Duncan, Flockhart & Co. would have no more right to call themselves chemists than Frazer & Green (Limited).

Every shop kept open for selling poisons and dispensing medical prescriptions has to be (1) registered, (2) conducted by a qualified person, and (3) it will be unlawful to sell or to *negotiate or to participate in the sale of any poison at or upon any place other than a registered shop.*

There is no definition of open shop, but it is provided that it must be a building separately rated to the poor. The prohibition extends to shops where medical prescriptions are dispensed. Herein lies a tangle. The words in italics embody a terrible infliction upon individual action. They would make it illegal to take an order for a poison from a customer in the street or market-place. The clause strikes at all who may sell poisons—therefore doctors—and it would require dispensaries and surgeries to be registered.

If a person is registered as being the *bonâ fide* conductor of one shop, he will not be registered in that respect regarding another until he has ceased to manage the first.

This looks quite right, but there is no provision for relief assistants, or for temporary absence of the registered *bonâ fide* conductor. As Clause 2 only requires the sale or dispensing to be done by or under the supervision of a qualified person, therefore not necessarily the registered *bonâ fide* conductor, the latter may in practice be a "deadhead." The registration is a redundancy, as we proceed to show.

Every change in the qualified supervision of shops has to be registered, each shop has to be registered, also changes of address. Each entry or alteration on the registers will cost half-a-crown.

The object of all this is to enable the Pharmaceutical Council to get at illegal transactions. It seems rather a roundabout process. The offenders are the few. Surely it would suffice to give the Registrar power to demand the names of *bonâ fide* conductors of shops when they are required. This is, in fact, provided by Section 8, which is in the following terms:—

The Registrar may from time to time, either by letter signed by him as Registrar or verbally by himself or by a person authorised

in writing by him for the purpose, make such inquiries as he shall think fit of any person retailing, dispensing, or compounding poisons or medical prescriptions at or of any owner of a registered shop, and it shall be unlawful for such person or owner to refuse or neglect to furnish (by writing signed by him if so required) the information inquired for.

This, with Clause 2 (requiring each shop to be *bonâ fide* conducted by a qualified person), gives all that is really necessary. The rest is a burden upon individual retailers, involving them in trouble and expense that are uncalled for.

The other most important points in the Bill are the requirement that joint-stock companies keeping open shop for the retail sale of poisons shall be managed by one or more directors who are registered persons (but not a medical practitioner), and that the Pharmaceutical Society shall have power to impose a curriculum for the Minor examination. Apart from these contentious provisions, we think individual chemists must see that the draft Bill has in it elements which are inimical to their interests, and do not favour its smooth passage through Parliament. We have to thank the lawyers for that. They, we believe, are chiefly responsible for the suggested zariba of forensic precautions, but that is not a sufficient reason for the Pharmaceutical Council or pharmacists themselves helping to construct the zareba. We regret we cannot see eye to eye with the Pharmaceutical Council in this matter, especially as in the main the cardinal principles of the Bill are right, and the trade will agree with us that the complications and restrictions to which we have referred do much to neutralise the benefits which the principles afford.

Medicated Wines.

THE provisions of the new Licensing Act are likely to bear somewhat severely upon a large section of the drug-trade, since magistrates refuse almost half the applications for "off" wine-licences required for the sale of medicated wines. For Exchequer-purposes the only wines regarded as medicinal are those mentioned in the British Pharmacopœia and coca-wine containing $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. of cocaine per oz., but in all these cases the Board of Inland Revenue has made certain specifications as to strength which are arbitrary in the sense that the standards selected (*e.g.*, in the case of vin. ferri and coca-wine) bear little or no relation to pharmaceutical possibility or therapeutic requirements. Outside the approved vinous medicines there is a large group of preparations made with wine which include many reliable remedies, but which are not nasty-tasted, and are therefore regarded by the Board as excisable liquors. From the prescriber's point of view, as well as that of invalids, these wines are therapeutic agents, and chemists and druggists are the proper persons to distribute them to the public. If the Magistrates are to go on interposing as they have recently been doing, the trade will be seriously hampered. A representative of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST therefore called at Somerset House a few weeks ago to see what assistance the Board of Inland Revenue could give in the matter, and as a result of his interview we sent the following letter to the Secretary of the Board:—

SIR,—Would you be kind enough to favour me with an opinion upon the following matter?

Up to the enforcement of the Licensing Act, 1902, it was obligatory upon magistrates to grant to suitable applicants certificates for the "off" wine-licence, but the new Act gives them option in the matter, and under it a very large percentage of the applications by chemists and druggists for "off" wine-licences are being refused by the Magistrates. These licences have hitherto been regarded as necessary for the sale of wines of coca, cinchona, or other medicaments, which are, substantially, medicinal preparations of these drugs, port or other wines being employed as agreeable menstruum, and when they were first introduced it was

customary for chemists and druggists to sell them, duly stamped, as proprietary medicines. Later, however, your Board decided that an "off" wine-licence is necessary for their sale, and this was held to be applicable to chemists and druggists. The Board also decided that if such preparations are sold under an "off" wine-licence it is not necessary to stamp them as proprietary medicines. The refusal of the Magistrates to grant "off" wine-licences to chemists will, in the natural course, place many in the drug-trade in an invidious position as regards the supply of several recognised remedies. I therefore ask you, in view of the special provisions as regards chemists who use spirits or spirituous liquors in the preparation or making-up of medicines for sick, lame, or distressed persons (16 George II., cap. 8, Section 12), if chemists and druggists holding the licence to sell stamped medicines may retail such medicated wines as I have referred to if they affix to each bottle a medicine-stamp according to the value of the article. I may add that most of the "medicated" wines at present sold under the "off" wine-licence would be liable to stamp-duty if not treated by the Board as excisable, on account of their being advertised for the prevention, cure, or relief of human maladies.

I am, &c.

This letter was written for the purpose of putting the case before the solicitor to the Board. It appears to have been considered well, and the following is the reply:—

E. 1513
1903
Inland Revenue,
Somerset House,
London, W.C.
4th March, 1903.

SIR,—The Board of Inland Revenue having had before them your letter of the 17th ultimo, I am directed to acquaint you that they are of opinion that if a so-called medicated wine—the basis of which is in fact wine—is so slightly medicated as to be capable of being consumed as a wine it would not be a sufficient answer to an information for the recovery of a penalty for selling wine without a licence to allege that it was a medicated wine and was sold with a medicine-stamp by the holder of a licence for the sale of medicines.

The Board are advised that the Act 16 Geo. II., c. 8, Section 12, cannot be regarded as extending to cover the sale of a wine such as that referred to, and they cannot, therefore, sanction the sale of such wines by chemists without a wine-licence.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. P. BYRNE,
Assistant Secretary.

The Editor,
"Chemist and Druggist."

Here the matter rests for the present, but it is important to note that Section 12 of the old Spirits Act quoted is not regarded as inoperative, a point upon which there has been some doubt. That Act refers to "the selling and retailing of brandy, rum, arrack, usquebaugh, Geneva, aque vite, or any other distilled spirituous liquors or strong waters," but not specifically to wines, and presumably this is the reason why medicated wines are considered not to come within the exemption granted to chemists and others.

British Indian Trade.

THE India Office has issued its annual Blue-book of tables relating to the foreign trade of British India, especially for the year 1901-2, and contrasting it with the four preceding years. It contains 119 foolscap pages of figures, and those dealing with the commerce of the country as a whole have been anticipated by Mr. J. E. O'Connor's statistics for the same period, dealt with in our issue of September 20, 1902. We again notice some discrepancy in the totals probably due to a later revision. The total values are as follows:—

	1900-01	1901-02
Sea-borne trade	£	£
Imports ...	70,314,234	72,889,149
Exports ...	81,297,307	90,910,767
	151,611,541	163,799,916

Of the imports, the United Kingdom sent thirty-five millions sterling, an increase of three millions on the previous year. Imports from British possessions (five millions) show a slight falling-off. Foreign countries are responsible for fourteen millions—an increase of over two millions on the

figures for 1900-01. Austria-Hungary stands first amongst them with over 2½ millions, the bulk of which was sugar. Russia has eclipsed Germany, and takes second place. This is due to larger purchases of Russian kerosene (two millions), which in India is squeezing out the American product. Of the exports from India, this country took 20,240,000% worth, or 700,000% less than in 1900-01, while foreign countries received well over nine millions more than in the previous year, the reason being that facilities for direct shipment to the Continent are becoming greater. Germany and France are the largest continental consumers of Indian produce, and Japan made wonderful strides last year, importing Indian goods to the value of 4,600,000%, an increase of over three millions. This consisted of cotton alone. Subjoined is a table giving the imports and exports of articles of drug-trade interest:—

	Imports		Exports	
	1900-01	1901-02	1900-01	1901-02
Spices—				
Areca ... lbs.	87,805,234	78,581,038	388,338	244,157
Cardamoms ... "	189,720	199,118	123,254	144,792
Cloves ... "	5,659,372	6,983,582	527,463	766,249
Ginger ... "	1,216,188	863,837	5,004,680	5,758,616
Nutmegs ... "	580,867	589,295	—	—
Pepper ... "	2,082,356	1,239,560	8,280,372	13,589,172
Other sorts... "	257,337	327,872	172,662	270,657
Quicksilver ... "	266,937	261,956	8,254	5,438
Chemicals—				
Alum ... cwt.	64,528	49,914	3,137	2,240
Arsenic ... "	2,766	2,045	—	—
Soda, bicarb. ... "	61,235	53,808	—	—
Cassia lignea cwt.	5,344	3,871	970	1,202
Salammoniac ... "	31,828	35,271	—	—
Sulphur ... "	41,529	64,672	—	—
Sulphuric acid ... "	201,925	213,060	6,886	6,038
Drugs, &c.—				
Aloes ... cwt.	300	610	449	657
Asafetida ... "	5,215	4,946	2,027	930
Camphor ... lbs.	1,093,372	1,086,595	43,565	54,308
Cassia lignea cwt.	20,737	19,942	3,571	3,353
Galangal ... "	3,160	4,424	—	—
Quinine ... lbs.	63,812	43,298	—	—
Other drugs... £	209,693	211,295	89,130	97,274
Opium ... cwt.	2	4	96,881	92,417
Saffron ... lbs.	38,688	39,620	32	50
Essential oils gals.	8,757	7,570	14,470	21,166
Gums—				
Arabic ... cwt.	2,355	2,776	12,171	9,878
Benzoin ... "	13,878	13,368	938	981
Olibanum ... "	26,271	28,161	19,478	26,089
Resins ... "	52,024	87,854	43,225	60,926
Other gums... "	15,052	17,290	—	—
Lac, stick and seed ... "	8,258	14,695	4,303	1,422
Shellac ... "	256	235	222,765	155,649
Perfumery ... £	15,645	15,869	4,664	4,425
Soap ... cwt.	100,180	101,083	6,876	5,669
Borax ... "	—	—	3,190	5,666
Saltpetre ... "	—	—	346,388	354,401
Cinchona ... lbs.	—	—	2,753,858	1,917,259
Indigo ... cwt.	—	—	102,491	89,750
Turmeric ... "	—	—	56,570	82,436
Castor oil ... gals.	—	—	1,535,622	2,019,720
Ajowan-seed... cwt.	—	—	4,658	13,939
Aniseed ... "	—	—	1,974	1,767
Coriander ... "	—	—	59,144	59,222
Cumin ... "	—	—	15,480	18,684
Fennel ... "	—	—	3,844	4,914
Beeswax ... "	—	—	5,059	4,139

Analysing the above figures we find that Austria-Hungary supplied the bulk of the quicksilver (156,300 lbs.), and the United Kingdom sent 100,000 lbs. Of the quinine, the United Kingdom supplied 38,754 lbs. (620,064 oz.), valued at 35,795%, out of a total of 43,298 lbs. (692,763 oz.) imported. The soap-imports were almost exclusively from the United

Kingdom, and of the drugs and medicines imported our share amounted to 207,700%, a decrease of about 12,000% on 1900-1. In the exports of castor oil Australia takes first place with 618,295 gals., the United Kingdom coming next with 480,739 gals., a considerable increase on the previous year. The Straits Settlements, Cape Colony, and Natal are the next largest consumers. France has lost her position as the principal consumer of castor-seed (422,649 cwt.), her place being taken by the United Kingdom with 484,084 cwt., Belgium being third, and Germany fourth. A considerable shrinkage is noticeable in the exports of shellac, and the United States now heads the list for the first time with 64,661 cwt., the United Kingdom being second with 61,336 cwt. Germany imported 15,074 cwt. only, against 43,000 cwt. in 1900-1.

The Creolin Cases.

The somewhat extraordinary proceedings which the Commissioners of Inland Revenue have taken to stop the sale of unstamped creolin-preparations indicate a serious state of affairs. The Commissioners do not demand penalties by the score when one proceeding would suffice. In the present instance the offending parties are clearly Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Company (Limited), the retailers being technically liable but innocent of offence. Going no further than the company's "Practical Guide," we find on the very first page a double ground of liability in the announcement that the company are

Sole manufacturers of . . . Jeyes' "Lauo-creolin"—For Burns Sores, &c.

Throughout the book there is abundance of recommendation of the preparations for the prevention, cure, or relief of human ailments. We select an example in respect to each article which is made liable to stamp-duty:—

Creolin is very useful for the eczema so often complicating leprosy.

Creolin surgical dusting-powder. Possesses valuable drying and healing properties

Creolin capsules. For diseases of the digestive and intestinal tract, such as gastric ectasis, dyspepsia, &c.

Jeyes' fluid . . . is a sure preventive of throat affection and other diseases.

Although Jeyes' fluid and creolin are antiseptics and disinfectants, the context shows that they are also recommended as medicinal agents, and, as they are not "medicinal drugs . . . vended entire," they come within the range of duty. The company must ultimately be responsible for any penalties that may be inflicted upon retailers in Great Britain through the negligence of the company to stamp the dutiable articles as required by Section 3 of the 1802 Act. We may again emphasise the fact that any retailers, wholesalers, or other persons who have received the specified preparations unstamped from the makers are required by Section 2 of the 1803 Act to do one of two things—(1) return them to the persons from whom they have been received, or (2) inform the Commissioners of Inland Revenue at Somerset House and return the articles to the nearest distributor of stamps within ten days of receipt. We daresay the Commissioners would raise no objection to retailers or wholesalers affixing the necessary stamps to the articles before selling them.

British Trade in February.

The imports of merchandise into the United Kingdom during February were valued at 40,560,500%, or 1,120,000%, less than the corresponding month last year, and the two months' imports show a deficiency of 5,035,000% compared with 1902. The shrinkage is almost entirely due to sugar, grain, and flour, which in the early months of the two

previous years were imported largely in anticipation of impending duties. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, and colours show a decrease of 106,600% for the two months, indigo alone being responsible for more than half. Next in order come myrabolans, saltpetre, alizarine, brimstone and bleaching-materials, and unenumerated drugs. The imports of painters' colours and pigments increased by 28,500%, valonia by 8,500%, cutch by 7,660%, glycerin by 7,648%, borax by 7,376%, and soap and soap-powder by 17,200%. On the export side the figures for February are distinctly encouraging, the increase being 1,463,000%. There is a gain of 215,173% in the two months in exports of chemicals, drugs, dyes, and colours, the total being 2,025,028%. During February the principal British-made chemicals exported were: bleaching-materials, 100,439 cwt., valued at 19,743%, or practically 4s. per cwt., against 71,770 cwt. and 22,164%, or 6s. 2d. per cwt., in 1902; copper sulphate, 8,490 tons, valued at 157,842%, against 4,160 tons and 82,978% in 1902; dye-stuffs, 17,829%, against 20,091%; glycerin, 9,850 cwt., or 20,465%; chemical-manure, 29,919 tons, against 30,377 tons; soda-compounds, 384,742 cwt., valued at 109,246%, against 295,028 cwt. and 88,442% in 1902; unenumerated drugs and medicinal preparations, 106,673%, against 101,872%; soap, stock and powder, 805 cwt., household soap, 78,193 cwt., and toilet soap, 3,503 cwt., the total being 82,501 cwt., against 73,943 cwt. in February, 1902. In addition to these the re-exports of foreign and colonial merchandise included borax, 1,988 cwt.; glycerin, 1,496 cwt.; unenumerated chemicals valued at 15,708%; Peruvian bark, 807 cwt.; soap, 320 cwt.; saccharin, 6,238 oz.; and quicksilver, 296,400 lbs. The quinine-account for the two months is as follows:—

	Imports in Oz		Exports in Oz.	
	1902	1903	1902	1903
January	22,960	32,502	17,600	42,916
February	29,116	29,288	16,200	30,985
	52,076	61,790	33,800	73,901

There was also exported 22,475 oz. of British make, against 45,272 oz. in February, 1902; for the two months the total is 108,827 oz., against 92,993 oz. in 1902. The above series of figures abundantly testify that the chemical-trade of this country is more than holding its own, while there is steady development in the export-medicine trade, with which THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is directly associated.

Beaconsfield's Flowery Language.

The late Earl of Beaconsfield was a martyr to asthma, and was in the habit of using a well-known asthma-cure for it. He refers to the matter in a letter written from Hughenden Manor on September 4, 1879, to the late Marchioness of Ely, Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Victoria. The letter is the one in which he expresses the wish to see the Queen Dictatress of Europe. It concludes thus:—

You are kind to ask after my health, and I am glad to give you the most satisfactory bulletin. No doubt the extreme regularity of my life tends to that happy result. Like the King of Spain, I have sought charm and consolation among the pine forests of Arcachon—i.e., in plain prose, I place on my table when I retire to rest a vase of the resin of those magical trees, and they have relieved me now from all my foes—fell asthma and chronic bronchitis. It is like the balsam which the dames of chivalry conferred on suffering knights, but, happily, you have neither to touch nor taste it.

Such a neatly rounded compliment as this has rarely figured amongst testimonials to proprietary medicines.

Winter Session.

Chemical Society.

AT the meeting held at Burlington House on Thursday, March 5, at 8 P.M., Dr. W. H. Perkin, F.R.S., was in the chair. The first paper dealt with the

ACTION OF SULPHUROUS ACID ON POTASSIUM BICHROMATE,

and was read by Mr. H. BASSETT. When a solution of sulphur dioxide is added to one of potassium bichromate there are formed chromium sulphate and dithionate. This reaction does not occur at once, and there appears to be first formed a complex salt which may be regarded as a potassium chromate containing residues of potassium sulphite and sulphate; after a time this is decomposed with the production of the simpler salts already mentioned. A number of interesting observations were also made on the behaviour of freshly prepared mixtures of bichromate and sulphur dioxide; thus to such a mixture acidified with hydrochloric acid the further addition of sulphuric acid followed by barium chloride produces no precipitate of barium sulphate, a reaction, or, rather, lack of reaction, which should be of interest in qualitative analysis. In congratulating the author Dr. Armstrong, in a Swedenhorgian manner, drew attention to the complexity of this reaction as an example of the mysteries which underlie even the simplest chemical reactions. The next two papers, contributed by Dr. H. A. D. JOWETT and Mr. POTTER of the Wellcome Research Laboratories, detailed the results of some further work on

THE CONSTITUTION OF PILOCARPINE.

The structure of the non-nitrogenous portion of the isopilocarpine molecule has already been determined as the result of oxidation experiments carried out on large quantities of this alkaloid. In the meantime Messrs. Pinner and Schwarz, who are also working on pilocarpine in Germany, have suggested, partly from the results of their own experiments, that this alkaloid has its two nitrogen atoms in a glyoxaline ring, and is, in fact, a methylglyoxaline with an aliphatic side-chain. The validity of this view has now been established by the English chemists by the preparation from isopilocarpine of methylglyoxaline, and by a comparative study of the action of bromine and oxidising agents on the alkaloid and substituted glyoxalines. This work is of particular interest, not only as clearing up the inconsistencies of much of the early work on this alkaloid, but also as adding a new type of structure to those already recognised among the vegeto-alkaloids. This paper was followed by one on

CAMPHOR β -THIOL,

read by Messrs. LOWRY and DONINGTON, who described the preparation of this, the first mercaptan of the camphor series, by the reduction of camphor-sulphonic chloride; it has the usual properties of the mercaptans, and, as becomes a camphor derivative, a few peculiar ones.

Dr. CHATTAWAY next described some transformations of

DIBENZANILIDE,

the most interesting of which was its conversion into benzoyl-aminobenzophenone by boiling with dilute hydrochloric acid, a reaction which, although the author did not mention it, appears to have commercial possibilities in the synthesis of organic dyes when applied to other series.

Röntgen Society.

A MEETING of this Society was held at 20 Hanover Square, W., on March 5, Mr. H. Jackson, F.C.S. (President), in the chair. Mr. F. HARRISON GLEW read a paper on

SPARK-PHENOMENA.

Mr. Glew described the various methods of recording spark-phenomena, mainly photographic. First dealing with the photography of lightning by his vibrating-lens method, which enables the duration of the discharge to be accurately measured, one particular flash was shown to have lasted the nineteenth part of a second, also showing that the discharge

could be dissected into its component pulses. The persistence of the path of the spark-discharge was shown by arranging two vertical wires nearly parallel, being slightly nearer together at the lower end. Sparks between these uprights always commenced at the bottom, but each succeeding spark occurred a little higher, in consequence of the heated air having ascended. The duration of sparks from a 10-inch coil was measured by allowing a brass ball to fall between two vertical parallel conducting-rods, set up before a photographic camera in a dark room—the two rods



being connected to a coil. The position of the falling ball determined the place of sparking, and thus recorded the individual oscillations and the entire duration. The difficulty of recording and measuring the duration of fainter high-frequency or Tesla discharges was got over by allowing the sparking to take place by direct contact on the photographic film, which was wrapped round the fly-wheel of an electric engine running at great speed synchronously. In this way the effect shown in the picture was produced. This shows the gradual growth, the duration, and decay of a single Tesla spark, giving a sort of life-history of the entire phenomenon, which lasted one two hundred and sixtieth of a second. The main branches indicate the fundamental surging, and the smaller oscillations probably correspond to overtone surging.

Mr. Glew demonstrated practically that Tesla currents can be rectified by balancing two alternative branches with a system of halls and points set in opposite directions, as the positive discharge always prefers to go from a point to a ball. An x-ray tube and a Crookes tube were thus shown working unidirectionally.

To illustrate the action of stationary high-frequency waves on wires, a 30-volt lamp and a vacuum-tube requiring about 5,000 volts were shown alight simultaneously, when attached to the same thick copper bar by which they were both short-circuited. Such waves were probably formed to some extent on a patient's body by the inductive electrostatic action of an x-ray tube when at work. The author has investigated the duration and form of emission of x-rays by the following new method: He wraps a celluloid photographic film round a flywheel, over which he places a stationary thick lead plate pierced with three holes of various sizes; an x-ray tube is set in action whilst the wheel is revolving synchronously at high speed. In this way he finds that what other observers have taken to be the spreading out due to duration can by sufficient speed be dissected into regular periodic pulses of emission, although due to only one break of the hammer of the coil. The duration of the whole effect in one case was one seven hundred and ninety-third part of a second, which embraced five separate pulses. The duration of these component pulses was about a forty-thousandth part of a second. These results point to a possibility of getting more continuous action from x-ray tubes.

Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association.

A MEETING was held at the Bull Hotel, Cambridge, on March 6. The President (Mr. A. Sidney Campkin, J.P.) presided, and amongst those present were Messrs E. Saville Peck, M.A. (Vice-President), H. J. Parsons, W. L. White, C. S. Addison, Percy Pain, J. Evans, T. Taylor, and Bernard S. Campkin (Hon. Secretary).

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

The Honorary Secretary of the Federation of Local Pharmaceutical Associations (Mr. George F. Merson) wrote asking the Association to arrange for a special collection to be taken.

at the annual social gathering on behalf of the Benevolent Fund, and in this connection the PRESIDENT said he had that morning received a communication from the Pharmaceutical Society asking him to pay over for the next twelve months the sum of 7s. 6d. per week to an old chemist between 80 and 90 years of age, who had been unfortunate in business and was in failing health.

PROPRIETARY ARTICLES AND THE MEDICAL COUNCIL.

The SECRETARY intimated that he had received a letter from Mr. R. Bremridge stating that the resolution of the Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association in reference to the undesirability of prescribing proprietary articles and patent medicines had received careful consideration, but the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society had decided that it was not expedient to communicate with the General Medical Council on the lines suggested by the Association.

THE COUNCIL-ELECTION.

The SECRETARY said he had received a communication from Mr. Broadhead, Secretary to the Federation of West Riding Chemists' Associations, advocating the candidature of Mr. R. C. Walshaw for the forthcoming election. This, however, appears to have been done without the permission of the West Riding Federation.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The PRESIDENT, in opening a discussion on the report of the Poisons Committee, said the object of Mr. Alexander Cross appeared to be to secure free-trade in poisons, which is the very thing pharmacists and the Pharmaceutical Society have been doing their utmost to restrict. He (the President) believed there was a consensus of opinion in favour of Mr. Walter Hills's minority report. If they reverted to the middle of the last century they would by comparison see how completely history repeats itself. In the sixties the pharmaceutical world experienced almost a revolution by the presentation and eventual adoption by Parliament of the Pharmacy Act. How much was expected from that measure, but how little material benefit resulted to its promoters and their successors can only now be realised. No one could have supposed that at the commencement of another century there would have been any doubt whatever but that chemists were the proper persons to dispense or distribute anything in the shape of a poisonous drug or chemicals of any sort. The decision of the House of Lords in 1886 in connection with the London and Provincial Supply Association was disastrous in its consequences to the average retail qualified man, but a great boon to the irresponsible unqualified limited companies. The draft Pharmacy Bill seemed to be framed with good intentions, but he was sorry to learn that there was no great probability of its being entertained in the House of Commons this Session, owing to the state of public business. He thought every effort should be made to bring influence to bear upon the Privy Council, so that they should not extend the possibility of the distribution of poisonous compounds except under the care and management of qualified men. There should be no temporising with the Poisons Schedule, but on the contrary some poisons not now in the schedule should be added.

In the course of a prolonged discussion the SECRETARY pointed out that, although it was said farmers and gardeners suffered inconvenience through the present restriction of the sale of poisons, no one belonging to either class was called to give evidence. Mr. PECK thought the Association ought to express disagreement with Part III., and Mr. PARSONS was strongly of opinion that ironmongers ought not to be allowed to sell arsenic. The PRESIDENT said the whole situation was admirably summed up in the cartoon published in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of February 28. Mr. PECK expressed his hearty concurrence with Mr. Walter Hills's report, and the PRESIDENT then formally moved—

That this Association is of the opinion that the proposed draft Pharmacy Bill should be introduced into the House of Commons without delay, and that the articles mentioned in the minority report of Mr. Hills be added to the Poisons Schedule in accordance with Section 2 of the Pharmacy Act, 1868.

This was carried unanimously; and Mr. PECK moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Walter Hills for his labours upon the Poisons Committee and his excellent minority report, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. PECK drew the attention of the meeting to the last page of the reprint from THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of February 21, 1903, which gave advice on how to approach members of Parliament. He considered the suggested letter excellent. It was thereupon agreed that the Secretary should send similar letters to the member for the Borough of Cambridge, and to the members for the North, Eastern, and Western Divisions of the County of Cambridge, and that Mr. Peck should write to Sir John Gorst and Professor Sir Richard Jebb, members for the University of Cambridge.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Great Yarmouth Pharmaceutical Association.

THE usual monthly meeting was held on Thursday, March 5, at 156 King Street, Great Yarmouth. The President (Mr. W. Sheppard Poll) was in the chair. The SECRETARY stated that the petition to proprietors of unprotected patents urging them to place their articles on the P.A.T.A. list had been signed by every chemist in the town. Forty copies had been sent out, and replies were read from some fifteen or sixteen firms. The attention of the members was drawn to the report of the Poisons Committee, and it met with universal disapproval. No definite action was taken, as it was decided to bring the matter forward at a later meeting. Two new members were elected.

Lincoln Chemists' Association.

THE members met at the Coffee Palace, Lincoln, on March 5, the President (Mr. Battle) in the chair. Messrs. Elmitt, Hill, Watson, Alleson, Wark, Shuttleworth, J. C. M. Battle, Walker, and Birkbeck were also present. It was mentioned that on February 18 Mr. Bremridge and Mr. Chater visited the town, and met forty Lincolnshire chemists. The following resolution was now passed, and the Secretary was instructed to send it to London for consideration at the next Pharmaceutical Council-meeting:—

This Association appreciates the visit of representatives of the Pharmaceutical Society, and recommends the appointment of an official whose duty it shall be to visit the different centres, and organise the trade throughout the country. Such a step would tend to greater support of the Society, and to united action being shown when necessary.

Since the last meeting letters had been sent to manufacturers urging them to protect their goods by placing them on the P.A.T.A. list. Out of twenty-five letters sent only six replies had been received. The lack of courtesy on the part of the remainder was severely criticised. It appears from replies that some manufacturers have private agreements, which are not well known to the trade. It was decided to recommend those manufacturers who have such agreements to accept the offer of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and publish the prices in that journal.

This meeting was specially called to consider what steps should be taken in regard to the report of the Committee on Poisons. The following resolutions were passed:—

1. That having carefully considered the report of the Poisons Committee, this Association does not approve of the recommendation to form a third part of the schedule, as it would be in opposition to the principles of the Pharmacy Act of 1868, which Act was passed for the public safety.
2. That this Association pledges itself to defeat the recommendation of the Poisons Committee in such a manner as the Pharmaceutical Society may think necessary, and appoints Mr. Battle and Mr. Elmitt as a deputation to explain the Association's views to the local members of Parliament at the House of Commons when the Bill is introduced.
3. That the minority report of Mr. Hills is thoroughly approved.

It was decided to write to the City member of Parliament (Mr. C. H. Seely) and to the members for the several divisions in the county, calling their attention to the fact of the possibility of pharmacy legislation from two different sources, and asking them to be good enough to keep an open mind on the subject until the Association is able to approach them more definitely. The Secretary is to write to the divisional secretaries in Lincolnshire acquainting them with the steps this Association is taking.

Wakefield Chemists' Association.

At a meeting of this Association on March 3, the PRESIDENT (Mr. W. Pollard) read an interesting paper on

LEAVES,

in which he showed conspicuous appreciation of the beauty and significance of this feature of Nature's products. He first marked the distinguishing characteristics of various kinds of leaves, and then proceeded to point out that the green leaf is the most important and significant fact in organic nature, inasmuch as all life—animal or vegetable—based itself, in the last resort, upon the green leaf alone. In the green leaf are laid up originally all the manifold materials which produce every part of every animal or vegetable form of life. The green leaf is the universal provider and prime manufacturer of organic life in all its phases. He then demonstrated that plants feed by their leaves, and not by their roots as is commonly supposed; and said that every tiny blade of grass becomes interesting to us when we remember that it is a marvellous, though minute, laboratory of Nature, in which, by intricate chemical changes, that wonderful active energy, the sun's light, breaks down the unions of the prime elements of carbonic acid and water and builds their atoms up again in fresh combinations into all the endless varieties of starches and gums and stringy fibres, out of which all animal and vegetable life is finally compounded. It is the chlorophyll, the green stuff in the leaves—which is the ultimate origin and final physical basis of all life now existing upon our planet, and without it no life can be. It is, as it were, the manufacturer of the raw material of organism—it produces from this organic substance in its crude form starch and protoplasm and cell-wall and sugar. It is in the leaf where the change from the dead to the living first takes place. All the energy in vegetable or animal life is seen in the last resort to be simply the sun's rays stored up and kept for use in the leaf as one might store electricity in a battery or as heat was stored in wood and coal.

A hearty vote of thanks was awarded to Mr. Pollard for his interesting paper.

The suggestion that a vote of thanks be sent to Mr. Walter Hills for the able manner in which he has drawn up the minority report of the Poisons Committee was adopted unanimously.

Stockport Chemists' Association.

THE monthly meeting of this Association was held at the County Restaurant on March 4, Mr. Wm. Dodge in the chair.

Mr. W. P. ORRELL read a forcible paper on the utility of the P.A.T.A., after which it was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously that all the members should support the P.A.T.A. Mr. WILSON proposed, and Mr. FORBES seconded, that all qualified chemists in the town be invited to join the Stockport Chemists' Association. This resolution was proposed in order to include assistants or managers. After some discussion it was carried unanimously.

Cardiff Pharmaceutical Society.

A MEETING of the members of this Society was held at the Park Hotel, Cardiff, on Wednesday, under the presidency of Mr. Jabez A. Jones. There was only a small attendance. The SECRETARY (Mr. H. A. Gerhold) submitted a requisition to be sent to the makers of proprietary articles, and, on the motion of Mr. R. MUMFORD, it was agreed that the requisition and signatories' names be printed, and a copy sent to each proprietor of non-protected articles.

THE POISONS COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

THE PRESIDENT said he had received a letter from the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society inviting him to attend a meeting of the Divisional Secretaries and representative chemists to confer on the report of this Committee. The meeting was attended by about thirty persons. There seemed to him to be an organised force against chemists and in favour of unqualified men, and when he received from the Editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST a copy of the report he wrote to the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society

asking what it was proposed to do. He received a reply on February 25, in which it was stated that the committee of the Council had had a consultation, and thought it inadvisable to do anything until the Bill was introduced into the House of Commons. The Council considered it the wisest policy to organise their forces so as to be ready to strike at the proper moment. It seemed to him (the President) that they were threatened not in an ordinary competitive way, but in a worse form and from motives of spite. He suggested that they should take up the question of the Poisons Committee's report, and fight the matter out if necessary to the bitter end. He noticed that at the end of the first day's proceedings there was a remark by Professor Thorpe that cut at the root of all things. He said:

I do not understand how all this education in this particular case, or what you claim as education, really puts you in a better position than the reasonably intelligent ironmongery assistant.

If they were to be put on a par in the sale of poisons with an ironmonger's assistant, it was time for them to inquire what their position was. Mr. Jones then referred to the Ballikilrain ant-destroyer, as to which Mr. A. J. BELLAMY remarked, "The users are admonished to keep it out of the way of dogs." "Oh, yes," replied the PRESIDENT, "that is so; but as dogs cannot read, that does not amount to much." (Laughter.) He mentioned this matter as showing the sort of thing which these persons sought to legalise.

Mr. J. RICHARDS (Penarth), said it was very awkward for farmers requiring sheep-dip who lived in places in which there was not a chemist's shop within a distance of six or seven miles, as in certain parts of Pembrokeshire and Cardiganshire.

THE SECRETARY: But if you allow these things to be sold by unqualified persons you are letting in the thin end of the wedge, and there is no telling that the result will be.

THE PRESIDENT said it was not farmers who were raising the difficulty, but the manufacturers.

Mr. J. RICHARDS said very few of the chemists were ever asked for sheep-dip.

Mr. R. MUMFORD said that might be so in towns, but they ought to stick up for their rights and privileges. Why should they go to the expense and trouble of passing an examination if unqualified men were to sell these things?

THE PRESIDENT referred to the supplementary report of Mr. Cross, which, he said, showed what was behind all this agitation, and advised every chemist who had the interest of pharmacy at heart to read up the matter. The only practical thing which they could do at present was to write to their Parliamentary representatives for Cardiff and South Glamorgan on the lines suggested by THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. No harm could come of that.

This was seconded by Mr. R. MUMFORD, and carried.

A letter advocating the claims of Mr. R. C. Walshaw as a Council candidate, was read, and the Secretary was instructed to acknowledge it.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

THE meeting held at 73 Newman Street, W., on March 5 was devoted to short papers. Mr. A. Latreille presided. Mr. BRITTON dealt with

SYNTHETIC OILS AND PERFUMES,

which, he said, may be roughly divided into two classes. In the first class are simple chemicals, such as methyl salicylate, cinnamic aldehyde, and terpineol, representing essential oils, the value of which depends upon one constituent. The three mentioned produce imitations of oils of wintergreen, cassia, and lilac. The other class may be said to be of a compound nature, in which the effect of a particular perfume is obtained by blending these aromatic products in the strict proportions in which their equivalents have been detected in the naturally produced oil. Some essential oils, such as lavender and cinnamon, have not as yet been successfully imitated, the natural oil still having a distinct preference. Dealing with the samples of synthetic perfumes which he had brought for exhibition, Mr. Britton said that lily of the valley is one of the finest compositions in modern perfumery. The base is linaloe oil in conjunction with ylang-ylang. Linaloe oil is almost entirely linolool. The synthetic product is richer than the natural, the equivalent proportion being

two-thirds that of the natural oil. The greater part of the research-work connected with the natural oil of ylang-ylang was carried out by Schimmel & Co., and last year only one of the few remaining constituents, isoeugenol, was detected. The imitation oil is now so perfect that only an expert can detect the difference from the natural oil. Geraniol, known for some years as the chief constituent of geranium and palmarosa oils, is produced by a patent process from citronella oil. Artificial otto of rose was introduced after much experimental work, which resulted in several discoveries of new constituents in that perfume. The artificial, which is put on the market containing stearoptencif desired, compares favourably with the natural otto. Hyacinth, lilac (terpineol), and jasmine oils are striking imitations of the natural odours, and possess many advantages over the natural oils. Aubepin (anescic aldehyde) very closely resembles hawthorn. Several other substitutional oils were shown, bearing out Mr. Britton's statement as to the excellence of the synthetic products. Mr. WM. MATTHEWS read a short paper upon

GREEN AND BLACK TEAS,

from which it appears that the difference is entirely dependent upon the time of plucking and method of preparing and drying the leaves. Green tea, generally speaking, is dried more quickly, and before any fermentation takes place. Mr. R. E. LOWNSBROUGH read an exhaustive treatise upon the

UMBELLIFERÆ.

This order, he said, consists of 267 genera and about 1,400 species, ranging in size from tiny bog-plants to giant specimens 15 feet high. The order may be divided into wayside-plants, garden-plants, wild economic plants, and cultivated economic plants. He mentioned examples of all kinds.

A vote of thanks to the authors terminated the proceedings.

A NEW LANTERN.

In reporting Mr. Maben's lecture on American pharmacy, we omitted to mention that the lantern used (an excellent one by Baker) was, at the end of the proceedings, presented to the Association by Mr. H. Hickey on behalf of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. The lantern fills a gap in the Association's impedimenta, and Mr. Latreille warmly thanked the firm for it.

School of Pharmacy Students' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held on March 6 in the Lecture Theatre, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., Mr. T. E. Wallis, B.Sc., presiding. After the ordinary business Mr. H. B. Fantham, A.R.C.S., gave a most interesting paper on

"CORALS AND THEIR STRUCTURE."

After an historical introduction Mr. Fantham described the systematic position of corals among the Coelenterate Anthozoa. An account of the structure of a common sea-anemone was given, and then the various types of Alcyonaria and Zoantharia were described. The very intimate relationship between corals and sea anemones and the development of the coral "polyp," and then its skeleton, were described. The modes of colony formation and their influence on the earth's surface followed; the lecturer concluding with an account of the distribution of corals and the theories put forward to account for coral formation, mentioning the Royal Society's expedition, for the purposes of boring, to the island of Funafuti.

West Ham Chemists' Association.

A SPECIAL meeting of the above Association was held on March 5, Mr. Harold Mitchell presiding.

The minutes having been passed, the PRESIDENT asked the Secretary to read the correspondence that had passed since the last meeting in regard to Thursday early closing. As one firm were unable to close, it was decided to ask the Early-closing Association to interview them with the object of getting them to fall in line with the trade.

The Secretary was also directed to write to the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society asking him for advice as

to the best means of opposing the Poisons Committee's Report.

The following were then elected as the committee for the coming year:—Messrs. Mitchell, Gwinn, Barnes, Forbes, and Soper.

Eastbourne Chemists' Assistants' Association.

AT the meeting in the Royal Restaurant on Thursday evening, March 5, Mr. HOLMES read a paper on "Ferments and Fermentation," which the members much enjoyed, and discussed as far as they had the opportunity.

Wolverhampton Chemists' Association.

AT a meeting held on Monday, March 9, at the Star and Garter, Wolverhampton, there were present Messrs. Willcock (in the chair), Cullwick, Fellows, Hooton, Forster, Phillips, Gibson, Coleman, Warner, Coombe, Stanway, and Weaver. The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted. Messrs. J. Hyde (Wednesfield), Rogers (Bilston), C. Bell, and W. H. Hooton were elected members. Mr. H. FORSTER read a paper, "The Metric System as Applied to Medicine," which we regret we have no room for this week.

Bradford Chemists' Association.

A MEETING of this Association was held on March 10, the President (Mr. J. A. Mitchell) occupying the chair.

A paper was read by Mr. J. A. DEWHIRST on

AIR,

in which he described the composition of the atmosphere as at present known, and dealt with many of the ascertained effects of variations in the proportion of constituents. Discussing the effects of increase in the proportions of CO₂ in the atmosphere, he held that laborious experiment had established the fact that the gradual poisoning of town populations was due not so much to the organic exhalations as to the excess of carbon dioxide. Whilst the general average of CO₂ was between 3 and 4 per 10,000, the average in mines was 78, in theatres 32, in workshops 30, about middens 7.7, in fogs 6.8, and in streets 4.0.

The discussion resolved itself mainly into one on the fresh-air treatment, the PRESIDENT and Messrs. DUNN, HANSON, WADDINGTON, MARSHALL, NEWBOULT, ROGERSON, GORDON, and others entering into it.

Mr. HANSON said that two patients had recently been brought to Queensbury, which is situated at a height of 1,100 feet, and had been ordered to sleep with their windows open, and both had died.

Alderman DUNN pointed out that ventilation does not necessarily imply a draught. The danger in the application of the fresh-air system is that so many people forget the difference between fresh air and draughts.

THE POISONS REPORT.

Mr. WADDINGTON reported that, in accordance with a resolution of the Association, he and the President had called upon Mr. J. L. Wanklyn, M.P., member for the Central Division of Bradford, and he had promised to oppose any Bill founded on the report of the Poisons Committee. Arrangements are being made for Mr. Bremridge to be introduced to Mr. E. Flower, M.P., and Captain Greville, M.P. (the other members for Bradford), by Mr. Wanklyn, in London, with a view to their support. The question of sending a deputation from the Bradford Association direct to interview the two members named was discussed, but no action was decided on.

Oxford Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting was held on Monday, March 9, at the Golden Cross Hotel, Mr. Burbank (President) in the chair. The other members present were Messrs. G. C. Druce, Clayton, Prior, Squire, Jessop, and J. Dolbear (Secretary). The following gentlemen were elected as officers for the ensuing year: President, Mr. G. C. Druce, M.A.; Vice-Presidents, Mr. Clayton, Mr. Burbank; Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. J. Dolbear; Committee, Messrs. Jessop, Squire,

Mathews, and Gilkes. The annual report was read by the SECRETARY and adopted, and the balance-sheet, showing 6*l.* in hand. Mr. PRIOR regretted to announce that he was about to sever his connection with the Association on his retirement from active business, and it was unanimously decided to elect him an honorary member, the PRESIDENT remarking that he hoped to see Mr. Prior present on a great many occasions in the future. No other business being before the meeting, the remainder of the evening was spent in a social manner.

Dewsbury Chemists' Association.

THE annual general meeting was held on Monday evening, March 9. Mr. R. Gledhill (President) in the chair. The SECRETARY (Mr. G. Walker) read

THE FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The membership is the same as last year. The meetings had not been so well attended as they might have been; seven members had not been present once. Reference was made to the business done during the year, and to the West Riding Federation. The TREASURER (Mr. G. N. Gutteridge) reported that the income had amounted to 11*l.* 12*s.* 5½*d.*, and that there was a balance in hand of 7½*d.*, as compared with 2*l.* 2*s.* 5½*d.* a year ago. Both reports were adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS.

All the officers—Messrs. R. Gledhill (President), J. Rhodes and R. Broadhead (Vice-Presidents), G. Walker (Secretary), and G. N. Gutteridge (Treasurer)—were re-elected, and several members spoke in appreciative terms of the services of Messrs. Gledhill and Walker.

The President and Mr. W. Stead were appointed delegates to the annual dinners of the Bradford and Wakefield Associations.

The SECRETARY reported that he had received the addresses of Messrs. Walshaw and Pickering, candidates for the forthcoming Pharmaceutical Council election, and a long discussion ensued. Mr. R. BROADHEAD also explained about his circular *re* Mr. Walshaw (see page 454). His fellow-members felt he had acted with the best intentions. The PRESIDENT said it was unfortunate that Mr. Broadhead (who was Secretary of the West Riding Federation) was a Vice-President of the Dewsbury Association. Some people seemed to think Dewsbury had something up their sleeve, but that was not so. Mr. STEAD eventually moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. PICKARD and passed:—

That the Dewsbury and District Chemists' Association is of opinion that the West Riding Federation should immediately call a meeting of affiliated associations to discuss the question of the Pharmaceutical Council elections, with a view to recommending candidates to be supported by the federated associations.

Huddersfield Chemists' Association.

At the meeting on Tuesday, March 10, Mr. Stephens presiding, Mr. R. C. WALSHAW (President of the Association) gave an address as a candidate for a place on

THE PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL.

He explained at the outset that Mr. Broadhead's circular had been sent out in error (see page 454). His policy broadly, he said, was contained in that part of the Charter which stated that the Pharmaceutical Society was formed for protection, education, &c. He thought the principle of protection was in danger of being lost sight of. They had plenty of education—that had been pushed to the fullest extent—but when the chemist and druggist had been educated his business seemed to be at the mercy of anyone. One way of protection was by securing that poison, or the dispensing of medicine containing poison, should only be within the province of qualified chemists. This, however, did not apply to companies. There were many ways of applying the principle of protection—for instance, by doing away with the vexatious prosecutions under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts. The Society had been lacking in the matter of giving information to members as to certain privileges to which they were entitled. They were credited with being a trade union by outsiders, and the evidence of

opponents before the Poisons Committee tended in that direction. He did not advocate that the Society should take up every little trade matter, but thought the infusion of a little more of that spirit would do good. He attributed the dearth of apprentices to the new Preliminary examination, and said it would be much wiser to go back to the old system. He was in favour of a compulsory curriculum in conjunction with the Minor. Mr. Walshaw also spoke at length on the report of the Poisons Committee, and said the formation of a third part to the schedule would be a serious danger to the community at large. He was in favour of legislation on the lines of the new draft Pharmacy Bill. He advocated that the broad policy of the Pharmaceutical Council should not be kept secret as heretofore, but published, so that every member of the Society might know what work was being done, and take an interest in it. If elected, he hoped to be of use to the rank-and-file of chemists in this part of the world, and was in favour of representation on territorial lines if a method could be practically adopted.

Mr. Walshaw was complimented on his address, and consideration of it was adjourned.

Glasgow Chemists' Assistants' Association.

At a meeting held at 25 Bath Street on Wednesday evening, March 4, Mr. H. LAW (Vice-President) read a paper on "The Manufacture of Iron and Steel," in which subject he has had personal experience in the laboratories of iron and steel works. Messrs. COMBE, CULBERT, and A. GILMOUR took part in the discussion which followed. The Secretary (Mr. F. Bewglas) laid on the table a motion to alter the name of the Association from the Chemists' and Druggists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association to the "Glasgow Chemists' Assistants' Association." This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Grimsby Chemists' Association.

A GENERAL MEETING of this Association was held at the Oberon Hotel, on March 10, Mr. T. Sneath presiding.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

The SECRETARY read letters from the secretary of the Federation of West Riding Chemists' Associations, soliciting support for Mr. Walshaw at the next Pharmaceutical Council Election, and from Mr. Pickering; it was decided to take no part in recommending anyone to the members until the full list of intending candidates was published. Mr. DEWING opened a long discussion upon the report of the

POISONS COMMITTEE,

and it was resolved that a small emergency committee be formed to interview the local M.P. if necessary.

Manchester Pharmaceutical Association.

At a meeting of this Association held at the Victoria Hotel, Manchester, on March 11, the President (Mr. Geo. S. Woolley) in the chair, after the minutes had been read, Mr. KIRKBY stated that it was not intended that his scheme for pharmaceutical students, set forth in his recent paper, should be compulsory, but only for those going in for a degree. The PRESIDENT called the attention of the meeting to the visit of Mr. Bremridge on Wednesday next regarding the Poisons Committee report.

Mr. J. GRIER then read a paper, with practical illustrations, on "Dispensing-problems," which was meant specially for students. A number of questions were asked and answered. In the discussion that followed the CHAIRMAN said a deceased Manchester doctor had once prescribed as many as twenty ingredients in a certain medicine. Other gentlemen present furnished amusing incidents relating to prescriptions that had come under their notice. Mr. Grier was thanked for his paper.

Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society.

A MEETING was held at the Montgomery Hall, Sheffield, on Wednesday, March 11, at which there were present Messrs.

John Austin (President), C. F. Carr (Vice-President), Percy Carr, R. D. Douglas, J. G. Jackson, F. Medley, F. W. Whitworth, H. G. Williams, H. Antcliffe (Hon. Secretary), and others.

Mr. SQUIRE read a paper entitled

RANDOM THOUGHTS.

It proved to be an exceedingly enjoyable effort, and we select some of the more striking passages from it, not necessarily indicative of our agreement with the opinions:—

He could not help thinking that much more had been done to boom the quack-remedy business than was necessary, and he thought it was a pity that they, as trained men, should make such a fuss about selling other people's remedies. They were all in the position of being bound to stock those articles, but as far as possible they ought to refuse to stock those that were boomed with shameless advertisements.

He thought it was high time the Government took up this subject of promiscuous drugging by the public, and refused to allow any quack remedy to be advertised and placed on the market unless the formula be published on each article, as in Italy and other European countries.

Referring to the Medicine-stamp Acts and the raids that had been made all over the country by Inland Revenue officers, Mr. Squire said they had, as most of those present knew to their cost, visited Sheffield, examined their windows, and, if anything doubtful had been seen, made a purchase; but, of course, they had not had the benefit of the doubt, and had had to pay. The annoying part about this stamping of medicines is that there is no definite wording in the Acts, and nothing to really indicate what is and what is not a recommendation, and it is left to one of the officials at Somerset House to pass judgment; and as there are frequent changes in the officials, so there are frequent changes of ideas. This was a very unsatisfactory state of affairs, and one which he thought the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society could take up with propriety. They, as pharmacists, should have the right to put on their labels the uses and doses of all simple remedies, but if they did so now they were liable to a fine as the authorities at present read the law.

The prescribing of specialities was referred to, as well as company-pharmacy (agreeing with the Pharmaceutical Council as to a test-case) and the report of the Poisons Committee. As to the last, Mr. Squire said:—

The evidence of the whole of the witnesses who favoured "free trade in poisons" could be summed up in one man, and that was Mr. Alexander Cross, M.P. Although he was a member of the Committee, there was no doubt that the majority of the witnesses were men of his own nomination, and had been coached by him for their evidence. . . . All Mr. Cross's arguments against the Society would be taken up and refuted at the proper time. Here they had to face the disadvantage of not having their own member, who could take up the glove against Mr. Cross on the floor of the House of Commons.

Mr. Squire lastly gave a brief summary of the reasons on which the evidence for a third schedule was based, much of which he characterised as hearsay evidence and imagination, and went on to answer each point raised. As to their competence to advise on the use of these articles, not being practical men, he thought most chemists in country districts know as much about farming, &c., as the ironmonger or seedsman, and are quite as able to give advice on their use, perhaps better, because they know the composition and chemical properties. He thought the majority of the Council made a great mistake at the meeting last week, when they decided to introduce their draft Pharmacy Bill of 1901, irrespective of the wishes of the Privy Council. He considered it folly to go in the face of the Government, and introduce a Bill, knowing that it would not find favour with the majority of members of Parliament, and without any very prominent backers. The Council could not dictate to the Privy Council, and therefore it was good policy to work with tact, and keep on the right side of a Government department.

IN THE DISCUSSION

which followed, Mr. ANTCLIFFE said he had fully expected to find the poisons report dealt with by the Pharmaceutical Council last week, and was surprised to find that it was not. He pointed out that six of the seven members of the Poisons Committee—five of whom were independent—signed the majority report, and the only one who went against it was a past President of the Pharmaceutical Society, who might easily be claimed to be prejudiced. They had the chance of putting things right by approaching the Government, but if

chemists thought that all would be made right by an interview between the Society and the Privy Council they were sadly mistaken. They should appreciate that fact.

The PRESIDENT thought from the report it was clear that the Committee had made up their minds before they sat. There were only two users of poisons examined, and all the other witnesses, with the exception of the members of the Pharmaceutical Society, were manufacturers of novelties. One manufacturer put forward the statement that he could not get chemists to stock his novelties. He thought any draft Bill introduced on the poisons report would be referred to the Pharmaceutical Council. Otherwise, if one were put forward on the lines of the majority report it would have all the chemists and doctors and coroners against it.

Mr. JACKSON was pleased to hear Mr. Squire say he thought the P.A.T.A. did some good. As a result of a communication, Messrs. Seigel had written him stating that there was a private agreement that Seigel's syrup should not be sold for less than 1s. 0½d., and asked him to sign such agreement, which they said they were surprised to hear he was unaware of. He had refused to do this, and suggested that it should be put on the P.A.T.A. list. They replied that their reason for not taking this course was that chemists demanded 20 to 25 per cent. profit, and the public were used to having the syrup at 1s. 0½d., and resented being asked for more. He had drawn their attention to the fact that this statement as to the profits was not correct, and quoted the recent Convention to show that on things like Seigel's and Beecham's 20 to 25 per cent. profit was not adhered to.

Mr. SQUIRE then replied, and, after being thanked for his paper, it was resolved unanimously—

That this Society quite agrees with the minority report of Mr. Hills on the Poisons Committee, and feels that the best thanks of this Society and the chemists of Great Britain are due to him.

Births.

HOLLINGWORTH.—At 83 Oxford Street, Liverpool, on March 4, the wife of Mr. J. H. Hollingworth, chemist and druggist, of a son.

PARRY.—At "The Chestnuts," Clarence Road, Teddington, on March 6, the wife of Ernest John Parry, B.Sc., F.I.C., of a son.

Deaths.

DONAGHY.—At Belfast, on March 6, Mr. Edward P. Joseph Donaghy. Aged 23. The deceased, who was well known in Ulster athletic circles, was the fourth son of the late Mr. John Donaghy, Magherafelt, and had entered for the licence-examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, but was prevented from sitting owing to his illness.

MALLAM.—At Armidale, N.S.W., on January 4, Mr. H. G. Mallam. Aged 73. Mr. Mallam was born at Oxford, England, of which city his father was at one time mayor, and early in life emigrated to New Zealand, subsequently sailing to New South Wales, and carrying on a successful business for some years at Armidale.

PROFESSOR KOCH, of bacteriological fame, has been elected a corresponding member of the Paris Academy of Sciences, in place of Professor Virchow, deceased.

CASEIN IN ARGENTINA.—A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Buenos Ayres, reporting that owing to the development of the butter and creamery business in Argentina, inquiry is made for a market for casein. This article, he adds, is employed in the preparation of celluloid, so that the matter interests British manufacturers. The Consul further adds that he will be pleased to do anything to bring the producer into relations with users of the article in the United Kingdom, if any of them care to correspond with him on the subject.

Westminster Wisdom.

(From our Parliamentary Representative.)

THE POISONS REPORT AND LEGISLATION.

Among the printed questions and answers of the week have been the following (March 6):—

Col. Long—To ask the first Lord of the Treasury whether his attention has been drawn to the report of the Departmental Committee of the Privy Council on Schedule A of the Pharmacy Act, 1868, and whether, in view of its effect on agriculture, the Government proposes to bring in a Bill to give effect to its recommendations?

Mr. Balfour: The report is under consideration with a view to legislation at the earliest opportunity.

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE BILL.

Notwithstanding the pledge of the Government to institute an inquiry into the efficiency of the Board of Trade and the Local Government Board, a pledge which was given as a consequence of the recent debate in the House, Mr. Louis Sinclair has introduced a Bill to reform, co-ordinate, and define our commercial administration and to create a Ministry of Commerce.

A SANGUINE MAN.

Mr. D. A. Thomas is a sanguine man. Apparently he has an idea that the Merchandise-marks Bill will obtain a second reading, for I observe that he has given notice of his intention to move—

That it be an instruction to the Committee that it has power to make provision for prohibiting the sale of goods which might be fraudulently sold as being of foreign manufacture unless there be conspicuously and indelibly stamped on every article a word or words indicating its source of origin, and that it comes from Birmingham, Sheffield, Manchester, or other manufacturing centre in this country.

SECRET COMMISSIONS.

In the House of Lords on Tuesday the Lord Chancellor's Prevention of Corruption Bill was read a second time, his Lordship, as well as Lord Beauchere, Lord Tweedmouth, and Lord Alverstone taking part in the discussion. The essential part of the Bill is embodied in the following paragraph:—

If any agent corruptly, and without the knowledge of his principal, accepts or obtains, or agrees to accept or attempts to obtain, from any person for himself or for any other person, any gift or consideration as an inducement or reward for doing or forbearing to do any act in relation to his principal's business, or for showing or forbearing to show favour or disfavour to any person in relation to his principal's business; or if any person corruptly gives or offers any gift or consideration to any agent as an inducement or reward for doing or forbearing to do any act in relation to his principal's business, or for showing or forbearing to show favour or disfavour to any person in relation to his principal's business; or if any person knowingly gives to any agent any receipt, account, or other document in respect of which the principal is interested, and which contains any statement which is false or erroneous, or defective in any important particular, and which to his knowledge is intended to mislead the principal—he shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and shall be liable on conviction on indictment to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding one year, or to a fine not exceeding 500*l.*, or on summary conviction to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for a term not exceeding four months, or to a fine not exceeding 50*l.*

PREFERENTIAL TARIFFS.

It will be recollected that one of the resolutions submitted at the recent Colonial Conference by the Colonial Premiers was in favour of preferential tariffs between the Mother Country and the Colonies. On March 3 the Government were asked to state whether they had come to any decision on the subject, the question being prefaced by a reminder that the adoption of such a scheme would be a reversal of the traditional policy of Great Britain. Mr. Austen Chamberlain, speaking on behalf of his father, pointed out that the resolution was not binding upon anyone, that as an expression of opinion coming from the representatives of the self-governing Colonies it merited consideration, that it was receiving consideration, but that, of course, the ultimate decision was a matter for the House of Commons.

CRUSADE AGAINST CONSUMPTION.

Some members think that local authorities should be able to make provision for the treatment of consumption as an infectious disease. It seems to be a moot point whether such power does not already exist, and the Lord Advocate will next week be asked to explain the situation so far as Scotland is concerned.

NAVY MEDICAL STORES.

The naval estimates for the ensuing year include a sum of 129,200*l.* for hospital and infirmary provisions and stores, medicines, and instruments. This represents an increase of 2,900*l.*

EARLY CLOSING.

A circular, signed by Lord Avebury, Lord Brassey, Lord Kinnaid, the Duke of Marlborough, Lord Romney, Lord Stanhope, Lord Stamford, Lord Verulam, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, has been issued inviting support for the Shops Early-closing Bill, which was read for the second time in the Upper House on March 12.

Personalities.

MR. WILLIAM DENNIS COX, pharmaceutical chemist, Grantham, has been appointed overser for the borough of Grantham.

MR. T. H. W. IDRIS has been appointed Chairman of the Works Committee and the Water Committee of the London County Council.

MR. C. S. ADDISON, chemist and druggist, Cambridge, lectured on "After-supper Photography" before the members of the Cambridge Photographic Society on Tuesday evening March 10.

MR. R. A. ROBINSON, J.P., member of the Pharmaceutical Council, was on Tuesday, March 10, elected deputy-chairman of the London County Council. Lord Monkswell is the chairman.

LIEUT. JOHN GIBSON, F.C.C., chemist and druggist, Hexham, one of the best known and most popular of the younger officers of the 1st V.B. Northumberland Fusiliers, has retired from the regiment after fourteen years' service, and in recognition of his valuable services to the Volunteer movement in Hexham and district he is to be entertained at a complimentary banquet on March 10, at which Col. L. C. Lockhart, V.D., will preside, and Surgeon-Major D. Stewart will act as Vice-Chairman.

MR. R. W. WATSON, senior partner of the firm of Watson & Norris, chemists, Sheffield, who is retiring from business, is the oldest chemist in Sheffield. He went to the town in 1860, and served five years as assistant to Mr. G. D. Wreaks, chemist, Angel Street, by whom he was ultimately taken into partnership. On the death of Mr. Wreaks in 1867 Mr. Watson continued the business on his own account, and in the same premises until a few years ago, when the shop was purchased by the Corporation and pulled down in order to widen the street. Subsequently the business was transferred to the present address, and Mr. Norris taken into partnership.

DEADLY.—Fashionable Doctor (out for a day's shooting): "Never saw such luck. What's the matter with the birds? I can't kill one of them!" Noble Host: "Write 'em a prescription, doctor."

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.—Not long ago a chemist and druggist, carrying on business in Manchester, asked a valuer what his business and stock were worth. After an examination the valuer said, "You will do well to get 100*l.* for it." "Why I was offered 125*l.* for it only a fortnight ago." "Then you missed your opportunity." A little while after he sold his business and stock by auction. After payment of all expenses he walked off with a clear 4*l.* 10*s.*! The business was in a side street. Another chemist, who wanted to get rid of one of his shops, asked whether it would be better to keep it open until he found a customer or put the shutters up. A third, in a Lancashire town, sold for 350*l.* for what he gave 450*l.*, and was considered to have done well. One, if not two, chemists' shops in Stretford Road, Manchester, are said to be on the market.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: March 12.

BUSINESS continues quiet in Mincing Lane produce, with few alterations to chronicle. A 50-per-cent. advance in bismuth metal was announced on Monday, owing to increased demand; sales follow the advance. Cod-liver oil on the spot continues to rise with almost every sale, and refiners, as a rule, are still unable to quote. An auction of cinchona was held on Tuesday, when a further advance in the unit took place; quinine has fluctuated in second-hands, owing to "bear" influence. Citric acid is again dearer, and makers are unwilling to sell for forward delivery. Copper sulphate is higher, owing to an advance in the metal. Nux vomica continues scarce; and in Rio ipecacuanha a fair business is reported. Japanese wax is again higher. Morphine and opium remain quiet, the latter tending easier. In essential oils, foreign lavender is tending upwards; and American peppermint is lower. The following are the principal alterations of the week:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Acid, citric	Ammonia sulphate	Opium	Oil, peppermint (American)
Bismuth and salts	Ginger (Jam.)		
Cinchona	Wax		
Copper sulphate	(Japanese)		
Oil, cod-liver			
Rhatany			

Importation of Saccharin, &c.

A general order ($\frac{15}{100}$) relative to revised and consolidated regulations as to the delivery and use of molasses at a distillery and the importation of saccharin has been issued by the Board of Customs. The following is the text of the latter order (see also *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY*, 1903, page 281):—

1. Saccharin or any substance of a like nature or use must not be imported into Great Britain or Ireland, except into ports approved by the Commissioners of Customs, and in packages containing not less than 11 lbs., and, when imported, must be warehoused. 2. Saccharin or any substance of a like nature or use must be specially described in the report of the importing vessel. 3. Saccharin or any substance of a like nature or use must not be packed with, or included in, any parcel or package containing goods of any other description. 4. The above regulations apply also to any goods which contain saccharin or any substance of a like nature or use as a substantial part or ingredient thereof. 5. Saccharin or any substance of a like nature or use, made in Great Britain or Ireland, must be charged with duty in the custody or possession of the maker.

Heavy Chemicals.

Conditions in the heavy-chemical market remain practically unchanged, with steady demand in all departments.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is firmer again, and prices are higher. Nearest quotations: Beckton, March-April, 12*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; April-December, 12*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; Beckton terms, 12*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*; London, 12*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; Leith, 12*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 12*l.* 15*s.*; and Hull, 12*l.* 10*s.* to 12*l.* 11*s.* 3*d.*

SATINITE continues to move well at unchanged rates of 62*s.* 6*d.* to 65*s.* per ton, f.o.r. or f.o.b. Liverpool, in casks, for home or export.

ALUMINA PRODUCTS.—There is little new to report in this department; the demand all round is steadily maintained, and

contracts are being taken up well, and especially so on home account. Miscellaneous orders and also export business being fairly plentiful, prices rule firm, with advancing tendency. Crystal alum, loose lump, 5*l.* to 5*l.* 5*s.* per ton; lump, in tierces, 5*l.* 5*s.* to 5*l.* 10*s.* per ton; ground, in bags, 5*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 5*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* per ton, with usual extras for other packages. Sulphate of alumina, purest qualities and practically free of iron, moving well at 4*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* to 4*l.* 15*s.* per ton, in ordinary-sized casks, with customary allowances for bags and loose slabs. Aluminiferous, 55*s.* to 65*s.* per ton, in accordance with package, condition, &c. Aluminous cake, 52*s.* 6*d.* to 60*s.* per ton. Hydrate of alumina, purest quality and highest strength Al_2O_3 , 11*l.* 15*s.* to 12*l.* 5*s.* per ton, in large casks. Hydrate of alumina, special pulp, 12*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.* per cwt.; special pulp, dried in lumps, 37*s.* 6*d.* to 38*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.; ground, 38*s.* to 39*s.* per cwt. Aluminate of soda, highest strength Al_2O_3 , 35*s.* to 37*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., according to quantity, package, &c. Carbonate of alumina, 35*s.* to 37*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. Chloride of aluminium solution, in barrels, 13*s.* to 14*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, March 11.

CASTOR OIL.—This article exhibits practically no change whatever. Good seconds Calcutta is quoted 2½*d.* to 2¾*d.* per lb. First-pressure French, 2½*d.*; second-pressure French, 2¼*d.* per lb.

CALABAR BEANS.—At auction 20 bags offered, and were held for 1*s.* 2*d.* per lb.

CANARY-SEED.—Steady, at 60*s.* to 65*s.* per qr. for Turkish and 70*s.* per qr. for Morocco.

TURPENTINE is easier, at 44*s.* per cwt.

AFRICAN GINGER.—For 10 tons Sierra Leone new crop, just arrived, 26*s.* was bid from the quay, but 27*s.* 6*d.* was asked for the lot.

CHILIAN HONEY.—Further sales of "off-colour" piles have been effected, but they do not indicate the market-value.

COPPER SULPHATE, 98 per cent., is still procurable at 22*l.* 5*s.* to 22*l.* 10*s.* per ton, in spite of the advance in the metal.

ARSENIC, powdered white, is obtainable at 12*l.* per ton, and is very firm.

German Drug Market.

Hamburg, March 10.

Business is very quiet here. Our drug-market does not show many alterations since last week, but a few articles are tending upwards, and meet with interest.

CAMPHOR.—Refined is very firm, and in good demand at 430*m.* per 100 kilos., while makers ask 437½*m.* to 435*m.* per 100 kilos.

CONDURANGO is quiet at 100*m.* to 90*m.* per 100 kilos.

CANTHARIDES is very firm at 5½*m.* per kilo.

CEVADILLA-SEED is also very firm at 110*m.* per 100 kilos.

CITRIC ACID is strong, and in a few hands at 26*m.* per 100 kilos.

CUMIN-SEED is dull at 38*m.* per 100 kilos. for Mogador.

ERGOT is quiet, and lower at 280*m.* per 100 kilos.

ELEMI is firm at 170*m.* to 175*m.* per 100 kilos.

FENUGREEK is quiet at 14*m.* to 13½*m.* per 100 kilos.

LYCOPodium is steady at 480*m.* per 100 kilos., in cases.

JAPANESE WAX is very firm at 122½*m.* per 100 kilos.

SENEGA is strong, Western being held at 850*m.* per 100 kilos.

STAR ANISEED is quiet at 119*m.* per 100 kilos.

SUGAR-OF-MILK is advancing, 100*m.* per 100 kilos. now being asked.

WORM-SEED is firm at 95*m.* per 100 kilos.

OILS (FIXED).—Cod-liver is very firm at 305*m.* to 310*m.* per barrel for non-congealing oil. Castor is neglected. Chinese wood is firm at 47½*m.* per 100 kilos. Linseed, cotton, and rape quiet.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—Star anise is unchanged at 10½*m.* per kilo., peppermint (HGH) is firm at 19*m.* per lb., and Japanese firm but quiet at 23*m.* per kilo.

Cablegrams.

BERGEN:—The total catch of cod for all districts up to date now amounts to 2,100,000, against 11,033,000 at the corresponding period of last year; this will yield 595 barrels medicinal oil, against 6,317 barrels. The quotation to-day for best medicinal Lofoten oil is 340*s.* per barrel, nominally. The fishing has been interrupted by stormy weather, and the livers are very poor, being partially useless.

SMYRNA, March 12:—The sales of opium for the week ending Wednesday evening amount to 100 cases, principally at 7*s.* 10*d.* per lb., f.o.b.

HAMBURG, March 12:—Citric acid is firmer at 255*m.* per 100 kilos., and sugar-of-milk is firm at 100*m.* and May delivery at 125*m.* per 100 kilos.

NEW YORK, March 12:—Business here is active. Opium is firm at \$3 per lb., in case lots. Quinine is active at 28*c.*

per oz. The market is practically bare of cod-liver oil, \$75 per barrel being wanted. Menthol is firm at \$6 per lb., and oil of peppermint is depressed and easier at \$3 50. Jalap is lower at 9c. per lb., and Rio ipecacuanha is easy at \$1.50 per lb.

ACID, CITRIC, is again dearer, and very firm, at 1s. 2½d. per lb. for English crystals. Makers refuse to sell for forward delivery.

ACID, OXALIC, is firm, at 2¾d. per lb. net, delivered in London.

ACID, TARTARIC, firm, at 1s. 0½d. for English and 11¾d. to 1s. for foreign.

ARROWROOT.—All the parcels of St. Vincent's offered at auction last Wednesday were bought in at 2½d. to 2¼d. per lb. Privately, 200 barrels ex auction have been sold at 1¾d. per lb.

BISMUTH.—Owing to a considerable demand for the metal, an advance of 50 per cent. was announced on Monday, the combination raising their price from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per lb. Bismuth salts have followed the advance, and the new prices are as under:—

	List Prices			
	Below 1 Cwt.		1 Cwt.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
Bismuth carbonate	8	1	8	0
Bismuth subnitrate	7	4	7	3
Bismuth citrate	7	1	7	0
Bismuth salicylate	7	7	7	6
Bismuth physio. pure	10	9	10	8
Bismuth benzoate	10	3	10	2
Bismuth subchlor.	7	9	7	8

Liquor bismuthi has also advanced 1d. per lb. to 9d. in W. qts. The above advance somewhat surprised the market, as the tendency appeared to be the other way. Consequently stocks in dealers' hands are said to be low. It is stated the combination have sold their output for some months to come.

BORAX keeps firm, at 13s. for crystals and 14s. for powder. Boric acid is 22s. and 24s. per cwt. respectively.

CARDAMOMS.—There has been a better demand than is usually the case between the auctions, especially for the larger sizes. For good seed up to 1s. 6d. is wanted. The annual report of the Planters' Association of Ceylon for the year ending February 17, 1903, states that the crop shipped during 1902 was 615,922 lbs., and, but for the prolonged wet weather during the last quarter, it would in all probability have been much larger. The difficulty of curing on the estates in wet weather delayed despatch, and led to large quantities being cured in Colombo. The shipment during the earlier months of 1903 will be heavier, and, in consequence, add considerably to its crop-despatch account. Prices have been generally lower than last year, but growers, who are fully aware of the danger of the supply exceeding the demand, will, it is expected, take steps for making their produce better known throughout the world. The estimate of crop for 1903 is £50,000 lbs.

CINCHONA.—Rather larger supplies than usual were offered at the London auction on Tuesday, of which about half consisted of South American bark, chiefly Calisaya. There was a brisk demand, and practically everything was sold at a further advance compared with the last London sale, the average unit being fully 1½d., against 1¾d. per lb.

The following table shows the quantity of bark offered and sold:—

	Packages Offered	Packages Sold
Calisaya cinchona	1,272	1,272
Soft Colombian cinchona	557	511
East Indian cinchona	601	530
Java cinchona	317	190
Ceylon cinchona	69	60
	2,816	2,563

The following were the approximate quantities of bark purchased by the principal buyers:—

	Lbs.
American factories	114,322
Messrs. Howards & Sons	59,904
Imperial quinine factory	52,560
Frankfort and Stuttgart factories	44,508
Brunswick factory	27,596
Mannheim and Amsterdam factories	25,624
Paris factories	3,000
Druggists, brokers, &c.	29,134
Total quantity sold	356,648
Bought in or withdrawn	111,690
	468,338

The prices paid for sound bark were as under:—

JAVA.—Ledgeriana, original stem chips, 5½d. to 9¾d., and root 7¾d. to 7¼d. per lb.; Succirubra, 4¾d. to 8½d., and root 4½d. to 7¾d.

CEYLON.—Succirubra, original stem chips, 3d. to 3½d., root 3¾d.; Crown, original stem chips, 6¼d., and branch 3d.

SOUTH AMERICAN.—Soft Colombian (511 bales) imported in 1882 and 1883 (Z.O. and UU) sold at from 2d. to 4d. per lb., 46 bales being bought in. Bolivian cultivated Calisaya quill sold at from 4½d. to 10¾d., and broken quill and chips 3½d. to 7½d. per lb.

EAST INDIAN.—Red stem chips and shavings 2½d. to 3½d., renewed ditto, 3d. to 5½d., root 3½d. to 5d., and siftings 2½d.; Ledgeriana, original stem chips and branch, 3½d.; Officialis, stem chips and shavings, 2¾d. to 5¾d.; renewed 5½d. to 7½d.; root 6½d. to 7¾d.; and branch 4d. to 4¾d. per lb.

We understand that the soft Colombian bark (Z.O.) referred to above was valued at 4s. per lb. when imported in July, 1882, and contained 3 to 4 per cent. quinine sulphate. The UU's were valued at the same time at 2s. to 2s. 6d., and contained 1½ to 2 per cent. q.s.

At the end of the month it is expected the London stock will have been reduced to about 5,000 packages, only half of which is manufacturing-bark, the remainder being druggists' grades, &c. The shipments from Java for the first half of March amount to 646,000 Amsterdam lbs.

CIVET.—Genuine pure is quoted 7s. to 7s. 6d. per oz. and "commercially pure" 6s. 6d. downwards.

COCA-LEAVES.—The exports from Java from January 1 to December 31 were:—

	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902
Piculs	795	547	586	470	1741

COCAINE is firm and unaltered. The general opinion is that higher prices will eventually rule.

COLOCYNTH.—Persian pulp has been sold at 3s. for brownish.

COPPER SULPHATE has advanced in sympathy with the metal, good brands being quoted at from 22l. 10s. to 23l. 10s. per ton, spot.

CREAM OF TARTAR is firm, at 80s. for 95-per-cent. powder and 83s. for 98 to 99-per-cent. powder.

CUBEBS.—The exports from Java from January 1 to December 31 in piculs were:—

	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902
	3,069	2,752	4,807	2,380	1,975

HONEY.—Good white Jamaica, in cases, is held for 23s. per cwt.

IPECACUANHA.—Since the gales there has been a fair demand for Rio and one catalogue which represented 30 bales has now been cleared, at 5s. 6d. per lb. for fair and 5s. 3d. for common, these prices showing no alteration.

LEMON-JUICE (CONC.) AND LIME CITRATE.—There are few sellers of lemon-juice in Messina: 18l. 5s. is quoted. Citrate of lime is weaker owing to large stocks: 16l. 10s. per pipe of 130 gals., f.o.b., is quoted for prompt delivery.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—New South European is coming to hand, and there has been a fair inquiry for it, holders asking from 33s. to 40s. per cwt. Ordinary rough Persian is quoted 8s. 6d.

NUX VOMICA continues very scarce on the spot, and to arrive 8s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f., and upwards is quoted. It is necessary, however, to purchase a shipment of, say, 50 tons to take advantage of c.i.f. quotation.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—The situation in regard to the fishery is summarised in the paragraph given below, which is trans-

lated from a Lofoten newspaper, and the latest information is given in our cablegram received on Wednesday evening. In London the tension continues unabated, and with a more active inquiry from 300s. to 320s. per barrel is quoted for old medicinal oil, business having been done at these figures. For new oil, 295s., f.o.b. Bergen, was paid early in the week, and it is said that the United States are buyers on this market, so they are evidently becoming alive to the position. Newfoundland oil is obtainable in small quantities at 290s. to 300s. for non-freezing. Our Bergen correspondent writes on March 7 that the prospects for the fishery have improved, and that next week statistics will be forthcoming. The livers are, however, extremely lean. No sales of cod-liver oil are reported, holders who have a few barrels in stock asking fancy prices up to 340s. per barrel, f.o.b. Bergen. The exports from Bergen up to date amount to 634½ barrels, against 1,643 barrels at the corresponding period of last year.

A correspondent has forwarded us a copy of the *Lofotposten*, dated March 2, giving the result of the Lofoten fishing up to the end of February. It is stated that on the above date there were only 2,039 fishing-boats present, against 4,298 at the corresponding period of 1902, and that the quantity of fish so far caught is so small that the authorities do not deem it necessary to mention any quantity as yet, whereas the quantities of cod caught in the Lofoten district in previous years were as follows:—

March 6, 1897	...	...	...	5,100,000
" 5, 1898	...	...	...	2,600,000
" 4, 1899	...	...	...	2,300,000
" 3, 1900	...	...	...	2,000,000
" 2, 1901	...	...	...	2,400,000
" 1, 1902	...	...	...	2,300,000

To these figures must be added the two to three millions of cod usually caught every winter between December and February before the Lofoten fishing starts, and which this year has been a blank. So far this year the fish are exceptionally lean. From one place—Vaerøe—it is said it takes 1,800 cod to fill a barrel of liver, against 450 last year. From Senjen, further north, the fish is reported "small and lean, livers almost useless." In the district of Söndmøre, by Alesund, it appears that 35,000 cod have been caught up to February 28, and the authorities there report that it requires 1,000 cod to fill a barrel of liver. In other places it is said matters are much worse, as much as 3,000 to 4,000 cod being required to fill a barrel. Whether this is an exaggeration or not, everything indicates a famine year.

OIL, GURJUN, is firm at 5½. per lb.

OIL, LAVENDER.—Foreign oils have an upward tendency, being held at higher prices in some instances. Mont Blanc is quoted 6s. 8½. to 7s. 8½. per lb.

OIL, NEROLI.—Bigarade is quoted 92s., "super" ditto 67s., and "Portugal" 42s. per lb. c. and f. terms.

OIL, NUT.—United States Consul R. P. Skinner, of Marseilles, states that he is in receipt of inquiries from local importers for the addresses of exporters in considerable quantity of American peanuts. Last year, some 10,000 bags were received in Marseilles, and the oil manufactured was a good quality, although the quantity was rather less than that derived from the same weight of African nuts. The demand at Marseilles is said to be practically unlimited.

OIL, OLIVE.—From Gioja, reports confirm the disaster to the crop when it seemed almost secure. The total yield is not expected to attain 8,000 botti. Yellow Messina is quoted 33½. 10s.; green Messina, 32½. 5s.; Gallipoli, 34½.; choice ditto, 35½.; and burning Russia, 38½. per tun of 1,045 kilos., f.o.b. Finest edible is quoted 4s. 8½. per gal., f.o.b. Messina.

OIL, PEPPERMINT, is lower, with a small business in American GHG at 16s. 6½., London terms.

OILS, ESSENTIAL.—The following are current quotations for well-known brands of Messina make:—Lemon 2s. 8½. per lb., Bergamot 9s., and sweet orange 6s. 6½., c. and f. London.

OPIUM.—The London market is quiet, and easier inclined, with retail sales of Smyrna druggists' at 8s. to 8s. 6½. per lb., spot. Persian is slow of sale at 9s. 6½. for good.

SMYRNA, February 28.—The market is unchanged, prices being firm. Large buyers are holding off the market and do not intend again to pay the higher range of prices which have ruled during the preceding eight days. Transactions have been for current requirements only. On the other hand, holders are firm, basing their hopes on the unfavourable crop reports. An urgent order

for 7 cases Karahissar t. q. has been filled at 8s. 4½. per lb., c.i.f. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 5,008 cases against 3,045 cases at the corresponding period of last year.

CONSTANTINOPLE, March 6.—There is no change to report. Market keeps firm and holders generally very optimistic in regard to future course of prices. The week's sales amount to 20 cases soft shipping at 9s. 2½., and 13 cases druggists' at 7s. 9½. per lb., f.o.b.

ORANGE-PEEL.—For fresh English hand-cut 8½. per lb. is asked.

OTTO OF ROSE.—From Bulgaria it is reported that a few delegates from Eastern Roumelia have presented a Bill to the National Assembly now in Session, proposing the protection of Bulgarian otto of rose from adulteration. It is also proposed to obtain the legal regulation of the production, sale, and export of the article.

POTATO-STARCH.—The United States Consul at Warsaw states that twelve new factories for the manufacture of potato-starch are in course of erection in his consular district, this being due to the large crops of potatoes in this section of Russia. About 90 potato-starch factories are already in operation.

QUININE.—The market closed flat and lower last week with sales of second-hand German sulphate in bulk at 1s. 0½. per oz., the depression being due to "bear" influence. This week prices opened firmer, with moderate sales of the usual German brands at 1s. 1½. to 1s. 1½. spot, May delivery at 1s. 1½., and August 1s. 1½. Since then no transactions of importance have occurred, spot value being 1s. 1½. Today the market is quiet, owing to rather heavy shipments of bark from Java.

The exports from Java in 1902 were 1,986 cases; 1901, 2,255; 1900, 1,921; 1899, 1,600; and 1898, 1,172 cases.

RHATANY is advancing, and there is now nothing obtainable at the recent low prices; one holder while not definitely naming a price, mentions 6½. per lb.

SPICES.—At auction on Wednesday bold cut Cochin *Ginger* was bought in at 85s. to 95s. per cwt.; good "C" cut was held for 50s.; cut tips sold at 42s. to 43s., rough ends at 36s. 6½., and cuttings at 36s.; small bright Calicut brown rough sold at 34s., and one lot of bolder at 36s.; fair washed rough was bought in at 45s. per cwt. Jamaica mostly sold, with good competition, at 38s. to 41s. 6½. per cwt. for small dark to middling dull. Penang *Cloves* were bought in at 11½. per lb. for good bright. Zanzibar are steady, but quiet, at 3½. per lb. on the spot, and at 3½. to 3½. for future delivery, according to position. A small lot of good Nyassaland *Chillies* was bought in at 45s. per cwt. Bright East India *Capsicums* were bought in at 16s. per cwt. *Pimento* firm; dull clean sold at 2½. per lb. *Cassia lignea* sold at 39s. 6½., with one lot at 39s. per cwt. for false packed. *Cinnamon* sold at 8½. per lb. for pieces and quillings mixed, but quillings were bought in at 8½. per lb. *Pepper* steady; Penang black partly sold at 5½. per lb. for light dusty, and good Ceylon at 6½.; good Wynaad was bought in at 6½. and Alleppy at 6½. per lb. Good Singapore white partly sold at 9½. per lb.; good coriander kind was bought in at 10½., fair Siam at 10½., and Penang at 9½. to 9½. per lb.

WAX, JAPANESE, is again dearer, 65s. spot having being paid.

Chinese Opium.

An interesting paper on Tonkin, Yunnan and Burma was read by Mr. F. W. Carey (late H.B.M.'s Acting-Consul at Szemao, China) before the Society of Arts on February 25, in the course of which he stated that the cultivation of the poppy in Yunnan can be traced back to the year 1760, and the Yunnanese are further credited with having discovered the way of smoking the drug. The production of opium in any quantity dates from the time of the Mahomedan Rebellion, which killed the silk industry and closed half the mines in the province. The want of some product, easily transportable, with which they could pay for their needs led the Yunnanese to turn their attention more and more to the cultivation of the poppy. The annual output is now not far short of 5,500 tons, while in the neighbouring province of Szechwan it is considerably more. Indian opium is on entry into China handicapped by an exceedingly heavy import-duty, and in a few years time Mr. Carey predicts that it is bound to be ousted from the Chinese market by the native article.

London Drug Statistics.

THE following statistics are compiled from information supplied by public warehouses. They relate to the receipts and deliveries of some of the leading drugs from and into the London public warehouses for the month of February, 1903, and to the stocks on February 28.

	February		Stocks		1903	
	Landed	Delivd.	1903	1902	Imprtd.	Delivd.
Aloes..... cs, &c.	275	280	1,330	1,297	411	558
"..... gours.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Aniseed, star cs	—	—	9	12	2	—
Arrowroot..... brls	1,212	1,010	13,352	8,465	3,333	2,205
"..... bxs & tins	100	53	1,349	679	100	164
"Balsams" cks, &c.	20	121	499	515	73	200
Columba bgs	15	16	1,440	1,729	66	16
Cardamoms .. cs, &c.	332	462	1,933	2,331	969	866
Cinchona pkgs.	1,012	1,016	8,010	10,320	1,878	1,904
Cocchineal bgs	6	50	684	1,116	11	98
Cubebs	—	2	1,279	1,332	—	14
Dragon's-blood .. cs	14	14	57	73	44	36
Galls..... pkgs	473	639	6,074	8,756	1,152	1,626
Gums—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ammoniacum ..	—	—	34	78	—	1
Animi	109	140	476	—	211	238
Copal	6,691	4,839	21,161	23,683	12,853	9,907
Arabic	2,651	2,080	10,249	15,595	5,255	3,750
Asafoetida	—	36	500	1,283	377	72
Benzoin	485	212	1,475	1,218	918	559
Damar	401	259	2,693	3,075	922	459
Galbanum	—	—	3	—	—	—
Gamboge	—	4	34	77	15	23
Guaiaacum.....	8	7	66	47	8	9
Kauri	127	228	740	1,559	435	404
Kino	5	15	152	182	—	20
Mastic	—	4	20	20	17	5
Myrrh, E.I.	39	17	118	149	72	22
Olibanum	1,123	209	1,970	1,350	1,498	515
Sandarac	27	241	1,266	1,133	153	445
Tragacanth	1,831	1,182	3,597	4,140	2,749	1,517
Ipecacuanha, Rio ..	15	49	536	521	43	102
"..... other kinds ..	35	89	274	472	78	124
Jalap	—	5	107	140	10	5
Nux vomica .. pkgs	—	33	13	64	—	55
Oils—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Aniseed, star .. cs	—	39	872	910	265	53
*Cassia	37	23	433	322	253	58
Cocoa-nut..... tons	82	54	219	77	172	118
Olive cks, &c.	162	243	1,037	1,150	320	392
Palm..... tons	41	1	45	13	41	8
†Quinine	1,031	7,428	217,284	217,798	2,931	11,439
Rhubarb..... chts	—	72	543	514	—	124
Sarsaparilla bls	161	131	116	224	253	220
Senna	57	37	1,961	2,472	165	897
Shel'ac	4,052	5,025	21,339	30,066	9,451	11,132
Wax, bees' pkgs	241	423	1,252	1,519	476	655
"..... Japan ..cs, &c.	228	112	355	224	246	141

* Stocks lying at Smith's Wharf and Brewer's Quay are not included in this return.

† Includes the quantity at Red Lion, Bull, and Smith's Wharves; also the Do's.

‡ Corrected.

NOTE.—The above statistics show that February was a fair business month for crude drugs. Probably the most interesting figures are those relating to quinine, which, compared with January, show a slight decline in the stock of 8,524 oz., the total being 3,476,544 oz. The deliveries during February were 118,848 oz., or an increase of 54,672 oz. Compared with January the landings were 15,000 oz. less, so that the statistical position has improved for those who wish to see higher prices. The stock of bark is about the same as in January, but the deliveries show an increase of 128 packages. Stock is the lowest recorded for the past six years. There were no arrivals of rhubarb recorded during February, but a consignment of 21 cases is now landing. The deliveries (72 cases) were good, and the stock, mostly high-dried, is 72 cases less than in January. In ipecacuanha the demand was principally for Cartagena, of which the bulk went to the United States; the deliveries of Rio are about equal to those of January, and the stocks of both descriptions are gradually dwindling—now 780 packages, against 868 in January. The scarcity of nux vomica may be judged from the fact that there are only 13 packages in the warehouse, and no arrivals have taken place this year. Fair supplies of sarsaparilla are coming forward in spite of the recent trouble in South America, but the bulk of them are sold on arrival, and the stock is about half what it was at the same period of last year. Stock of kino is still heavy, but slightly less than the previous month. Myrrh is also coming to hand more freely, but gamboge is still scarce with no arrivals in February. Benzoin on the other hand is plentiful, and there is now a fairly large stock, little of it being good seconds, however.

Coming Events.

Secretaries should send us notices by Wednesday of each week.

Monday, March 16.

Society of Chemical Industry (London Section), Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 8 p.m. Mr. H. D. Richmond on "The Standardisation of Analytical Methods," and Mr. A. R. Ling on "The Standardisation of Commercial Methods of Analysis, especially those Applied to Brewing Materials."

Edinburgh Pharmacy Athletic Club. Annual meeting in the Pharmaceutical Society's House, 36 York Place, Edinburgh, at 9 p.m. Office-bearers will be elected and an alteration in Rule 10 will be considered.

Wednesday, March 18.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W., at 5.30 p.m. The following papers will be communicated: "Essential Oil of Hops" and on "A Compound of Dextrose with Hydroxide of Aluminium," by Mr. A. C. Chapman; "Action of Phosphorus Alkoids on Dihydroresorcin," Part II, "Dihydroresorcin," by Drs. A. W. Crossley and P. Haas; on "The Constitution of Cotarnine," by Professor J. J. Dobbie and Messrs. A. Lauder and C. K. Tinkler; "Decomposition of Mercurous Nitrite by Heat," by Messrs. P. C. Ray and J. N. Sen.

Glasgow Chemists' Assistants' Association, 25 Bath Street, Glasgow, at 9.15 p.m. Business: election of office-bearers and committee, &c.

Western Chemists' Association, Westbourne Restaurant, Paddington, W., at 9 p.m. Discussion on the report of the Poisons Committee.

Royal Microscopical Society, 20 Hanover Square, W., at 8 p.m. A paper will be read by Mr. J. W. Gordon on "The Helmholtz Theory of the Microscope."

Halifax Chemists' Association, Old Cock Hotel, at 9 p.m. Mr. R. C. Walshaw will make a statement of his policy as a Council-candidate, and there will be a discussion on the report of the Poisons Committee.

Wholesale Chemists' and Druggists' Cricket Championship League. Grand evening concert at 8 p.m. in the Holborn Town Hall, when the silver challenge cup will be presented to the winners for 1902—the Wellcome C.C. Tickets, 1s. each; reserved seats, 2s. 6d. each; may be had from Mr. C. G. Cowen (Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co.), Mr. A. M. Cheyne (Messrs. Burgoyne, Burdicks & Co.), or the Hon. Secretary (Mr. E. Sibley, Messrs. Davy, Hill & Co.).

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (North British Branch), 36 York Place, Edinburgh, at 8.30 p.m. Evening meeting. Mr. Andrew King, F.I.C., on "The Use of the Buchanan Absolute-Weight Hydrometer," and Mr. D. B. Dott, F.I.C., F.R.S.E., on "The Resin of Podophyllum rhizome."

School of Pharmacy Association, 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C. Social evening, at which Professor Collie will give an address.

Thursday, March 19.

Cumberland and Westmorland Chemists' Association. The annual dinner will take place in the Great Central Hotel, Carlisle, at 3.30 p.m. Mr. J. R. Hill (Edinburgh) and Mr. T. Maben (Glasgow) are to speak.

Chemists' Assistants' Association. Annual dinner in the Royal Venetian Chamber, Holborn Restaurant, W.C.

Optical Society, 20 Hanover Square, W. Social meeting.

Glasgow and West of Scotland Pharmaceutical Association, 94 West Regent Street, at 9 p.m. Mr. H. P. Arthur on "Tablet-making at the Dispensing-counter"; Mr. D. Black, "Dispensing Notes"; and Mr. D. Watson on "Copper in Nux Vomica."

Friday, March 20.

Royal Institution of Great Britain, Albemarle Street, Piccadilly, W., at 9 p.m. Professor E. A. Schäfer on "The Paths of Volition."

Edinburgh Chemists', Assistants', and Apprentices' Association. The annual supper in the Imperial Hotel at 9 p.m. Tickets (4s. each) may be had from members of the committee or Mr. A. E. Kelly (Hon. Secretary), 11 Elm Row.

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the North Staffordshire Chemists' Association is arranged for April 16, at the Grand Hotel, Hanley. Tickets can be had from Mr. Edmund Jones, Stoke-on-Trent.

THE CHEMISTS' MANAGERS' AND ASSISTANTS' SOCIETY are arranging to hold a smoking-concert at the Tudor Hotel (corner of Dean Street), Oxford Street, on March 25. 11111

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

THE Council met at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on Wednesday, March 4, at 3 P.M. The President (Mr. George D. Beggs) took the chair; and the other members present were Messrs. G. Grindley, W. F. Wells, P. Kelly, I. E. Connor, H. V. Golden, Wm. Jamieson, W. V. Johnston, T. N. Moffitt J. Smith, G. Browne, and Professor Tichborne.

APRIL EXAMINATIONS.

A letter was received from the Irish Privy Council approving of the following regulation:—

That in consequence of the third day of the Pharmaceutical Licence examination in April, 1893, falling on Good Friday, the said examination shall commence on Tuesday, the 7th, and the Preliminary examination on Monday, April 6.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT it was ordered that the Pharmaceutical Licence examination in April be held on the 7th, 8th, and 9th of that month; that on the first day the candidates be examined in the morning in practical chemistry, and in the afternoon in practical pharmacy; that on the second day the examination be by papers; and on the third day oral.

A letter was received from Dr. J. A. Walsh, acknowledging his appointment as lecturer in materia medica during the illness of Mr. Hunt, and stating that he would do his best to maintain the high standard of efficiency that had hitherto characterised those lectures.

The PRESIDENT expressed his pleasure that Dr. Walsh had consented to lecture temporarily in order to further the views of the Council.

TEACHERS OF AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY.

The following letter from the Irish Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction was read:—

February 16, 1903.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 5th instant, I have to inform you that a first class certificate in the advanced stage of theoretical inorganic or organic chemistry, obtained at the Local Science and Art examinations, held annually by the Board of Education, South Kensington, is accepted by the Department as evidence of qualification to give theoretical instruction in the subject of the certificate. To be recognised as qualified to give practical instruction in chemistry, a teacher is required to hold a first-class certificate in both the theoretical and practical divisions of the examination. I have to add that the degree of any university or diploma of any approved technical college where chemistry is part of the degree or the diploma course will, for the present, be recognised as qualifying to teach the subject; but the Department have intimated that they will at the earliest convenient moment require proof that the teachers have also had a practical course in an approved laboratory.

I am, &c.,
T. P. GILL.

The PRESIDENT: I take it that for the present our licentiates would be eligible for any such positions.

Mr. GRINDLEY: Is it a fact that one of our licentiates is at present engaged in teaching under the Department?

The PRESIDENT: It is. From the tenour of that letter, I take it that our men are eligible for the positions.

Professor TICHBORNE: I think their syllabus should be submitted to our School Committee in order to see how far our course conforms with it. An objection might be raised hereafter if it did not. I move that the syllabus be referred to the committee.

The PRESIDENT seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

ELECTIONS.

On the motion of Mr. GRINDLEY, seconded by Mr. WELLS, Mr. H. O'Connor was re-elected to conduct the Pharmaceutical Assistants' examination.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. GOLDEN, Dr. R. Watt was re-elected to conduct the Registered Druggists' examination.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by the VICE-PRESIDENT, Mr. F. C. Large, of Athy, and Mr. D. I. McGrath, of Carlow, were elected members of the Society.

Reports and other business having been disposed of, the Council adjourned.

South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:—

SOUTH AFRICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.
PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF CAPE COLONY.
NATAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
TRANSVAAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
RHODESIA PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

NATAL TRADE.—The imports of drugs and chemicals into Natal during 1902 amounted in value to 169,000/., against 133,000/., in 1901; oilmen's stores 238,000/., against 183,000/.; and soaps and candles, 142,000/., against 151,000/.

NEW CAPE LABORATORY.—The Cape Government has established an analytical laboratory at Grahamstown. Not only is the Cape Town laboratory quite unsuitable but the space is too small for the volume of work it has been called upon to discharge, and it has been evident for some years that a branch must sooner or later be located in the Eastern Province. It is only natural that all matters pertaining to the Eastern Province will now receive attention at the hands of the analyst stationed at Grahamstown, thus relieving the Cape Town headquarters of a certain amount of work. The ordinary Government tariff for private analyses will be in force. The question that now presents itself is, When will the Government find suitable premises for the Cape Town laboratory?

LICENCES TO PRACTISE in the Transvaal have been issued by the Colonial Secretary at Pretoria to the following:—

Medical Practitioners.—J. J. S. Anderson, M.B. (formerly of Shuttleston, N.B.); F. S. Butler, M.B., Edin.; Howell Davies, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. (from St. Bartholomew's, London); W. J. Dixon, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., London; Allan Martin, M.B. (formerly of Glasgow); A. J. Ortlepp, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., London; R. W. Pearson, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (formerly of Hendon); Jacob Schurer, M.R.C.S., M.R.C.P., London; and W. G. Wight, M.B. (formerly of Windygates, N.B.).

Dentists.—Jas. Duncan, L.D.S., Glasgow; G. Friel, L.D.S., Ireland. [Neither name is on the Dentists Register.]

Chemists and Druggists.—Hugh A. France (Minor, 1898, formerly of Penicuik, N.B.); Donald Macaulay (Minor, 1889, formerly of Alnwick); Lewis Thomas (Minor, 1887, formerly of Caerlon, Mon.).

IS THE TRADE COMMISSIONER A BLESSING?—Our Cape Town correspondent recently interviewed a Transatlantic representative and asked him to express an opinion on the above subject. He said, *inter alia*: "Trade commissioners are all very well in their way. I question whether they ever do much good, though. They come out and interview lots of people—work hard, I admit—but tell me, do you think that there is a British representative in this country who will give a trade commissioner a tip? Not a bit of it. If you force him to talk, he will fill you up diplomatically with fish stories." Continuing, he said: "You will remember that we (the Americans) had a very good man out here not long since, by name Colonel Stowe. He was a great man for trade, but it is a much-debated question as to whether he did not do more harm than good to American business in this country. He placarded the country around, numbers of firms sent out representatives, and if all he said on paper was true, then American exports to South Africa should have reached higher figures than they have. The average English representative can hold his own in South Africa, and if trade commissioners think they can tell these men anything, then they have a great deal more faith in themselves than I have. So long as they keep down to freight and shipping and banking questions they are all right, but the moment they start to give advice to the manufacturer on business matters, they fail from a business-view point. I read their writing with interest. It is one thing to write down what can be done; it is quite another to come out and get the business. Let the British stop sending out these 'commissioners,' and in their place let us have good business-representatives, and the British will hold up their end a great deal better. The average American can look after his trade, so can the average Britisher; and when the time arrives that they cannot, something better than sending out trade commissioners will have to come into operation."

TRANSVAAL IMPORTS.—According to the *Government Gazette*, the following drugs, chemicals, &c., were imported into the Transvaal during the year ending December 31, 1902, compared with the corresponding period of 1901:—

	1901		1902	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Acetic acid and vinegar ... gals.	12,065	£ 2,453	22,462	£ 4,529
Apothecaries' wares—				
Chemicals and toilet articles ...	—	68,696	—	158,437
Potassium cyanide lbs.	187,937	10,215	5,238,319	248,883
Quicksilver ...	—	1,193	—	8,724
Sulphuric acid lbs.	25,688	586	122,012	1,640
Acids, other kinds ...	—	1,027	—	2,356
Confectionery and sweets ... lbs.	718,235	29,071	1,787,528	77,532
Corks and bungs ...	—	1,746	—	6,780
Manna ... lbs.	3,000	31	8,224	171
Glass bottles ... doz.	41,000	5,218	160,529	19,029
Honey ... lbs.	27,617	1,026	46,469	1,506
Milk, preserved lbs.	4,411,731	90,978	9,364,311	175,317
Oils—				
Castor ... gals.	7,978	1,712	9,306	2,862
Cocoanut ...	2,704	515	5,607	1,311
Linseed ...	9,322	1,482	88,320	12,275
Sweet ...	8,307	3,347	23,457	7,976
Paints ...	—	4,810	—	28,604
Photographic materials	—	—	—	25,622
Resin ...	—	24	—	191
Sheep-dip ... gals.	4,075	626	18,330	1,391
Soap—				
Household ... lbs.	2,903,320	32,479	5,104,798	62,148
Perfumed and toilet ...	104,803	8,700	234,130	19,978
Sparklets and bottles ...	—	—	—	10,940
Spirits—				
Perfumed ... gals.	2,682	6,141	7,541	19,592
Oversea ...	111,768	65,982	559,934	329,789
South African ...	5,017	2,235	22,786	8,592
Tallow ... lbs.	61,342	1,034	216,473	2,894
Tar—				
Coal ... gals.	3,882	162	42,536	1,082
Pitch ...	—	4	—	499
Other kinds ... gals.	1,360	48	25,514	985
Tea ... lbs.	596,733	32,683	1,600,000	92,691
Turpentine ... gals.	7,312	783	24,810	3,744
Varnish ...	1,555	532	14,825	5,450

The total value of the goods imported into the Transvaal last year amounted to £13,067,671, compared with £3,664,149 in 1901. The imports for 1902 were entered as follows:—

	£
From and <i>via</i> Natal ...	5,412,423
From and <i>via</i> Cape Colony ...	6,375,482
From and <i>via</i> Delagoa Bay ...	1,279,766
Total ...	£13,067,671

Customs duties collected during the twelve months ending December 31, 1902, amounted to £1,578,774, as compared with £500,734 for the corresponding period last year. The return does not include military or public stores. The value of exports from the Transvaal for the twelve months ending December 31, 1902, amounted to £7,431,632 sterling. The principal items were: Coal, £104,412; gold, £7,239,888; tobacco, £13,518; wool, £35,659.

MEDICAL AND PHARMACY ACT CASES.—At the Criminal Sessions at Cape Town on February 11, Frederiek William Schmidt was charged under six counts with acting as a medical practitioner, he not having a licence. Accused pleaded guilty, and explained that when first charged he was medical officer for the Railway Pioneer Regiment. He had been called into consultation by other medical men at Woodstock, where he was stationed, and accepted a few cases, but not with the view to practising. He said he was a qualified medical man and his diplomas were in safe keeping. He told Mr. Justice Hopley that he could take out a licence whenever he wanted to. He had got out several chemical patents and obtained 380/ for a meat-preserving powder. The prosecution arose from the fact that he was called in to

attend a child, but found another doctor in attendance. He explained to the parents that he could not attend, but the mother insisted, and he made some remarks about medical negligence which reached the ears of the other doctor, at whose instance the proceedings were instituted. The prosecution did not deny the skilfulness of the prisoner or the fact that he was qualified, and the prisoner was discharged. Dr. Giuseppe Maria Saporiti, charged with practising without a licence, was brought up on remand on February 16, at Cape Town, before Mr. C. W. Broers, A.R.M. The accused presented diplomas of medicine, surgery, and natural sciences of the University of Genoa, Italy, and a diploma of the University of Rome. He stated that he made application to the Medical Council of Cape Colony in order to be registered as a medical practitioner, on receipt of which the Council had asked him to prove that British practitioners are enjoying in Italy the same rights as Italians in Great Britain. The accused had written to London and to Rome, and was now awaiting the required documents to enable him to make a further application for registration. In the meantime accused had seen some patients who were fellow-countrymen, but had never asked or accepted money as fees. He had only accepted money for expenses in connection with the medicines as a support towards a hospital for children in Italy of which accused was the President. The accused was further remanded in bail of 400/.

Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony.

THE annual general meeting of the Society was held at Hofmeyr's Chambers, Cape Town, on February 12. The attendance was fairly good, and among those present were Mr. George Darroll (President), Mr. J. A. Mathew (President of the Colonial Pharmacy Board), Mr. A. H. Mathew (Messrs. Heynes, Mathew & Co.), Mr. A. J. Rivett (Messrs. Lennon, Limited), Mr. W. H. Helmore, of Kimberley, and Messrs. S. Johnson, E. Merrington, H. Cope, and the Secretary.

Letters were read from the Colonial Secretary's Office, from Mr. M. Carteighe (acknowledging receipt of 7/ 7s. towards the William Martindale Memorial), and from Messrs. Evans Sons Lescher & Webb (Limited), who wrote advising shipment of a materia medica cabinet, which they asked the Society to accept, with their compliments, expressing the hope that the time is not far distant when reciprocity will be in force between the Mother Country and kindred societies in the colonies. The Secretary was directed to write the donors, thanking them for their presentation.

The Secretary's annual report having been read, the President, in

HIS ADDRESS.

referred to the financial state of the Society, which, considering the heavy demands made upon it of late, was highly satisfactory. In a sense, it would first appear that they had spent beyond their income, since the balance at the bank was not so large as when he took office, but calls had been made that were not likely to come up during the next twelve months. The President counselled the members to help the Secretary to discharge his duties by sending in their subscriptions promptly. He looked forward to the time when the Society would have an office of its own, where members could take advantage of all the pharmaceutical publications printed in the English tongue, and he was quite prepared to contribute towards that end. Touching on the Martindale Memorial, the President said that they had all hoped that a scholarship would have been promulgated, and that a South African pharmacist would have had a chance of gaining it, but the London Society had decided against it, so they, the Cape Society, merely joined in with their young Rhodesian *confrère*, and sent a subscription. After referring to lectures and other matters associated with the more immediate interests of the Society, the President concluded by expressing the wish that the year commenced would be full of good fellowship, good faith, and good luck.

OFFICERS.

The new President is Mr. A. J. Rivett, with Messrs. A. H. Mathew and J. S. North as Vice-Presidents. The Council is composed of Messrs. A. H. Mathew, George Darroll, S. Johnson, Dr. W. Froembling, George Hamilton, J. H. Cooper, F. Mathew, and A. Marr, with Mr. James Dell as Secretary.

Australasian News.

Chiefly from "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia,"
February 2, 1903. 6d. per copy, post free.

AMONG THE REGISTRATIONS accepted by the Pharmacy Board of Victoria in January occurs the name of Mr. John Wilson, pharmaceutical chemist (G.B.).

POISON-LICENCES.—There are eighty-six shopkeepers, other than chemists, who are licensed to sell poison in New South Wales. The licences have to be renewed annually.

OXALIC ACID FOR EPSOM SALTS.—A hospital-nurse at Newington Asylum, N.S.W., has accidentally poisoned a patient by giving oxalic acid instead of a dose of Epsom salts. The bottles containing the chemicals were similar in appearance.

THE WILLIAM MARTINDALE FUND.—The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales at their meeting on January 20 voted two guineas to the William Martindale fund, and passed a resolution of sympathy with the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

THE REGISTER OF CHEMISTS in Victoria was published in the *Government Gazette* on January 13. The total number of chemists on the register is 822, which is three less than last year. According to the addresses given, 105 of those registered live outside Victoria, five being resident in England.

AN ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.—At a meeting of chemists' assistants and apprentices, held at Launceston, Tasmania, on January 16, it was resolved to form an Association, to be called "The Northern Tasmanian Chemists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association."

THE PHARMACY MEDAL, offered by the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia, was presented to Mr. A. L. J. Peters for an essay on liquid extract of *ipecacuanha*. Mr. Peters read his paper at the half-yearly meeting of the Society in Adelaide on January 15. The paper is printed in the *C. D. A.*

PROPRIETARY ARTICLES IN HOSPITALS.—Out of 762 articles in the schedule of requirements for the State hospital of South Australia, 97—13 per cent.—are for proprietary medicines. It would be interesting to hear what the proportion is in other English-speaking countries, and whether it is increasing.

A NEW POISONS BILL, which, among other things, is to repeal the Act of 1862, was discussed by the members of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Australia on January 15. The Council had prepared the Bill and sent drafts to the members, but there was only a poor attendance at the meeting, and some of the clauses were referred back to the Council for reconsideration.

EARLY-CLOSING.—Mr. G. W. Hean, chemist, Wanganui, N.Z., was charged under the Shops Act with keeping open shop after the statutory closing-time on December 4, 1902. Two customers were served with cough-mixture after 9 o'clock, and the Magistrate, in dismissing the case, said Mr. Hean had acted rightly, as chemists were expressly allowed to sell medicines after hours.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF TASMANIA was held on January 14 at Hobart, with Mr. C. Eberhard (President) in the chair, and Mr. J. T. Weaver (Vice-President) supporting him. The Council's annual report took a hopeful view of pharmaceutical affairs, and the Treasurer's account showed a balance of over 20/. The President appealed for more generous support from chemists, as without an adequate subscription-list the Society could not properly protect the interests of the trade.

IRELAND FORGOTTEN.—Mr. E. M. S. Hill, pharmaceutical chemist (Irish qualification), has pointed out to the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales that the recent regulation, sent to the Governor and Executive Council for the purpose of recognising British certificates, does not mention the Irish qualification. When the letter was read Mr. Loney pointed out that the other reciprocating States will have to be

consulted before anything can be done. The Registrar is accordingly to make inquiries. Mr. Hill has also called the attention of other Australasian Pharmacy Boards to the matter.

SECTION D of the N.S.W. Pharmacy Act allowed the Board of Pharmacy to register as pharmacists persons who had for not less than three years before the commencement of the Act been assistants, apprentices, or dispensers in the colony. The last batch of applications for registration under this section was considered at a special meeting of the Pharmacy Board on January 30, when nine applications (three of them ladies') were granted. Although a considerable number of persons have been registered under Section D, the number is smaller than was generally anticipated.

RECIPROCITY.—February 1 was the date fixed from which the certificates of the contracting States should be interchangeable. The regulations, which have to be approved by the Governor in Council, have not yet been adjusted, so that the necessary proclamation has not been made. There was every probability, however, that the delay would only be a matter of a week or so. The agreements detailing points not covered by regulations between the three States will then be signed, and thereafter the Boards will be at liberty to carry out the agreed-upon provisions. The *C.D.A.* has collected together the personal views of representative Australasian pharmacists, and they mostly speak of the new federation in an enthusiastic tone.

THE SUMMER ISSUE of the *Chemist and Druggist of Australasia* is a capital number. The feature is a series of "Fragmentary Jottings" on pharmacy in Great Britain. The article, which occupies twelve pages, contains portraits of Mr. M. Carteighe, Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, Mr. C. B. Allen, Dr. John Attfield, Mr. R. Bremridge, Mr. E. M. Holmes, Mr. J. W. Knapman, Professor H. G. Greenish, Mr. J. R. Hill, Mr. W. S. Glyn-Jones, Mr. H. S. Wellcome, and Dr. Power, besides several engravings of business houses—a selection which shows the range of the jottings. The Australian whose experiences are thus chronicled has seen British pharmacy in a *coulour-de-rose* light, but it is cheering to find that at a time when pharmacists are more pessimistic than usual a looker-on sees no signs of decadence.

East Indian News.

IN THE BAZAAR.—A speciality sold retail by a Parsee firm of druggists in the Bombay market is "pure tiger fat," which is recommended as being very useful for rheumatism, paralysis, and joint-pains in general. It is quoted at 1r. per bottle.

PERSONAL.—Mr. J. Herbert Davies, pharmaceutical chemist, Simla, whose business was burnt out last year, arrived in Bombay on February 20 *en route* for the scene of his labours and his mishap. He hopes to have the place in working order by April 1.

MORE FOR AGRICULTURE.—There is an intention to convert the Bengal Government farm at Pusah into an Imperial Institute of Agriculture, to be under the Government of India, with technical, practical, and scientific department, and a staff of chemists and biologists.

A MADRAS ALMANAC.—From the English Drug Company, 32 Stringer's Street, Esplanade, Madras, we have received a specimen almanac which that firm issue to their customers. It is of the wall-calendar variety, with tear-off monthly sheets printed on chameleon-tinted paper. A useful idea is the ruling of the back of each monthly sheet for memoranda, each day of the month having a line the full width of the sheet.

OUR BOMBAY CORRESPONDENT states that the sale of "Dr. Carl's Ague Specific as recommended by the *Lancet*" continues in the bazaar as if no *Lancet* protest had been uttered. It will be remembered that the *Lancet* denied some time ago that the specific in question was recommended in that journal. Furthermore it was stated that "we have instructed our solicitors to communicate with this firm [the proprietors of Dr. Carl's specific], and to take such steps as seem to them

necessary to prevent the fraudulent use of the name of the *Lancet* in connection with the quack preparation in question."

INDIAN INDIGO AND JAPAN.—The Japanese Government is about to increase the duty on Indian indigo imported into Japan while leaving the German artificial and the Java product untouched. The *Madras Mail* in drawing attention to the matter states that the Government of India has not so far been informed of the contemplated change, which will increase the selling price of the Indian article in Japan by 8 yen per picul—or about 16s. per 133½ lbs. This increase, which is due to take place on April 1, is regarded as most unfair, but its introduction at such very short notice—and with practically no official notice to the Government and people concerned—makes it much worse. It is to be hoped therefore that the Government of India will take immediate action with a view to securing at least a postponement of the increase until representations on the subject can be made to the Japanese Government. The exports of Indian indigo to Japan in the past three years have been as follows:—23,705 cwt. in 1899–1900; 7,386 cwts. in 1900–1, and 5 710 cwts. in 1901–2.

More Advertisements Criticised.

By ADEPS ADEPTIS.

THE large number of the advertisements submitted for criticism made it impossible to deal with all of them in the Winter Number of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. One fact which the competition brought out was that there are, from the point of view of a professional advertising-man, certain generic errors that seem to pervade a good deal of the advertising-matter drafted by the pharmacists of this country. An effort is being made to classify some of the more commonly recurring defects, and in this connection one or two more examples will be printed (always with the idea of promoting the great cause of successful advertising) from time to time.

It has been considered by many readers that humour is a characteristic which can be imported into pharmaceutical advertising. A little humour is a dangerous thing, and a good deal of it may find itself out of place in advertisements designed to win the approval of the suffering. It is little likely, for instance, that a certain American announcement would find favour here, even if the newspapers of this country would print it; but the United States has a less seriously minded public, and the following example is genuine. It ran (omitting the address) as follows, enclosed in a neat Oxford frame:—

	HAVE YOU \$1?	
	HAVE YOU PILES?	
	Send us the Dollar,	
	We'll cure the Piles.	
	Or, if you prefer it,	
	KEEP YOUR DOLLAR &	
	KEEP YOUR PILES.	

It must be admitted that no such flagrant example of humour in the wrong place reached these offices in the course of the recent competition, but neither did anything quite so funny turn up.

The following is a British example, furnished by Mr. G. Clark, 178 Trongate, Glasgow, and certainly not unfitted to make the judicious grieve:—

Chichichouchoucheechee.

Good Gracious! What is it? Where is it?

We, Smith & Smythe, the Twentieth-century Chemists, Cam-lachie, wish to tell you all about it.

The derivation of the word Chichichouchoucheechee is unknown; it remains a mystery.

But one thing we do know about Chichichouchoucheechee is this: It is the greatest corn-eradicator we have ever sold.

If you have a corn, purchase a 7½d. packet of Chichichouchoucheechee corn-plaster. Apply it according to the directions given, and you will find your corns disappear like magic.

Should you not be afflicted with corns, please find out if your friends suffer from them.

A good way to ascertain this is to tread heavily and suddenly upon your friend's toes. If your friend instantly becomes a volcano of adjectival remarks, you can assume that he is a martyr to corns.

Then is the time to introduce to him Chichichouchoucheechee, and we are confident you will earn his eternal gratitude by doing so.

Chichichouchoucheechee obtainable only from Smith & Smythe, chemists, Camlachie.

For some unknown reason corns, a cold in the head, and one or two other diseases of the human frame appear to share with mothers-in-law and the painful circumstance of a wakeful baby in paternal arms a capacity for arousing British laughter; but does Mr. Clark seriously think either that a pharmaceutical compound designated by a factitious title of twenty-two letters and recommended by such advertising as this could in any conceivable circumstances become popular? Or is Mr. Clark amusing himself at the expense of an attentive public south as well as north of the Tweed? This is a serious undertaking (as the American critic remarked of *Punch*): the risibilities of the chemical public are less easily provoked. Not without humour is the following example, which, however (as it is printed), calls for more-practical criticism. It is neatly composed, and is forwarded by the advertiser whose name it bears:—

Pink Pills for Pale People
White Pills for Black People
Blue Pills for Sick People
Black Pills for Bad People
Gold Pills for Good People
Grey Pills for Sad People
Sweet Pills for Sour People
Small Pills for Big People
New Pills for Old People
No Pills for Young People
(but, Powders in Jam)

xxx

EDMOND DODGE, PHARMACEUTICAL MERCHANT, 31 NICK STREET, Lowestoft.

Now the object of advertisement is to sell goods, and as this example has been printed, presumably the ingenious master of "Pillmonger's Hall" expects it to do so. Of the amount of dignity and distinction likely to be conferred on a scientific and business establishment by such a designation Mr. Dodge must be the judge. But, frankly, is this the way to sell pills? Do people really assail surprised stomachs with medicine chosen in this spirit? "Black Pills for Bad People," "Small Pills for Big People"—surely this is humour standing on the place where it ought not. That there are pale people who take pink pills for that complex persistent advertising must convince us, whatever we may think as to the attractions of the title, and perhaps Mr. Dodge is an agent for—

The far-famed bolus, picturesquely pink,
Which Williams makes, to tint with rosy hue
The pale complexions of the City-bred

(as a satirist phrased it); if so, it is still a little difficult to estimate why he should be advertising them at his own expense; if not, it is likely that the employment of a title so greatly advertised may bring him into disagreement with some sharp lawyer. But in either case there is no business to be got out of an announcement like this, or the fact that Mr. Dodge can design as excellent a piece of typography as this only makes more regrettable the exhibition of so unremunerative a spirit in the composition of his announcement.

Among a very large batch of excellently composed advertisements, in some of which, again, the printer's art has with much ability been called in, Messrs. Horton & Bayes, of

Fenny Stratford and elsewhere, issue a handbill, of which the following is a greatly reduced imitation:—

ADVERTISING IS

ancient—as ancient as the old Egyptians, Greeks and Romans who lived before the Christian era; from the ruins of Pompeii there have been unearthed very artistic advertising posters executed in several colors. Nowadays advertising is often another word for

SWINDLING,

and its users frequently steer very close to the law which would land them in jail for obtaining money under false pretences. Advertising was invented for the purpose of bringing goods for sale to the notice of potential purchasers. Whilst endeavouring to be quite "up to date"—and a little in front, if possible—we are convinced that honesty however "old-fashioned" cannot be improved upon. Our aim is to justify the appellation

"DEPENDABLE,"

and to sell at the lowest prices compatible with quality. We hold extensive stocks, and are in constant touch with the best sources of supply.

Whilst thus speaking of goods in general we would draw your attention just now to our recently replenished stock of

Hair Brushes,

of all grades and prices, and an examination of which we solicit at your hands, being assured that you will not find better value in the neighbourhood

HORTON & BAYES,



Members of the Pharmaceutical Society,
SCIENTIFIC & STORE CHEMISTS,

FENNY STRATFORD & WOBURN SANDS.

The class of humorous advertisement in which display lines announce some fact contrary to the subject-matter of the text, or differing from it, is much esteemed by some writers. It is hardly ever judicious, and Messrs. Horton & Bayes, who are evidently able and consistent advertisers, will do well to ask themselves whether, in view of the "first glance," which is so eagerly sought by publicists, and the effect (sarcastically remarked upon by George Eliot as associated with "the first triumphs of the art of printing") of "question-begging phrases in large type," it is not rather a mistake to throw what appears to be a general doubt on a system of business-making which they practise, in other examples, with much success.

Recent Wills.

MUNN.—The will of the late Mr. Robert Munn, chemist and druggist, Burnley, who died on February 4, 1903, has been proved at 12,953*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* gross, the net personality amounting to 12,614*l.* The deceased bequeathed 300*l.* to the bellringers of Trinity Church, 400*l.* to be divided between five Burnley churches, and 400*l.* to the Conservative party. The residue of the estate (10,000*l.*) goes to the Victoria Hospital, Burnley.

REDMAYNE.—The will of the late Mr. Robert Redmayne, manufacturing chemist, of 49 Richmond Grove, West Manchester, and The Hermitage, Bowness-on-Windermere, has been proved at 11,346*l.* gross, the net personality amounting to 9,605*l.*

SCHUNCK.—Estate of the value of 148,134*l.* 16*s.* gross, and 132,654*l.* 3*s.* 9*d.* net, has been left by Dr. Henry Schunck, an ex-President of the Society of Chemical Industry, who died at Manchester on January 13, 1903.

Recent Patents.

Cleaning Smooth Surfaces.—J. C. Matthew, Park Yard, Kensal Road, London, with a view to easily removing sulphurous and carbon deposits on painted, varnished, or other smooth surfaces, has devised a composition which has the advantage that swilling with water and the subsequent application of oil are not required. The composition is as follows:—

(1)				
White dextrin	...	...	...	1 part
Sucrose	...	...	...	1 part
Antimony-chloride solution (5 per cent.)	...	...	...	6 parts
Methyl alcohol	...	...	...	5 parts

(2)				
Rosin	...	...	...	8 parts
Linseed oil (or other vegetable oil)	...	...	...	33 parts
Vinegar (containing 5·5 per cent. of real acetic acid)	...	...	...	7½ parts

Melt the rosin with the oil, and boil with the vinegar for eight minutes. Then mix with No. 1 to form an emulsion, and let stand four days before use.

The stuff is painted on the surface to be cleaned, allowed to remain on ten minutes to dry, then wiped off with cotton-waste, and polished with dry waste. (21,107, 1902.)

For a similar purpose M. Peryer, Matson Street, Sydenham, Christchurch, N.Z., uses a powder made of—

Fine clay	...	...	...	56 lbs.
Whiting	...	...	...	7 lbs.
Sugar	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Salt	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Borax	...	...	...	1 lb.
Pearlash	...	...	...	½ lb.

which is applied with a moist flannel, and rinsed off with water.

Insulating-material.—V. Karovodine, 28 Rue Lacordaire, Paris, to make an insulating-material, chooses a resinous powder such as mineral bitumen, lac, or any kind which will not quickly decompose at a temperature of 250° to 300°. This he heats with 35 per cent. of sulphur to a temperature of from 350° to 400°, and a doughy mass results, which is mixed whilst still warm with 25 to 70 per cent. of asbestos, sand, pumice-stone, or other inert matter. (26,363, 1901.)

Wound-closing Device.—G. J. Van Schott and O. Dressler, Passaic, New Jersey, U.S.A., have devised a clip for bringing together the edges of wounds, which they have been granted a patent for. The instrument consists of a V-shaped flexible wire clip, with projecting pins. The clip holds the edges of the wound together by means of the pins, a special pair of pliers being needed for the purpose. (23,539, 1902.)

Toning and Fixing Photographs.—S. S. Bromhead, 33 Cannon Street, E.C., has obtained protection for sheets of absorbent material saturated with toning and fixing bath. Two examples of the baths are given—

(1)				
Sodium thiosulphate	...	...	...	500 grams
Ammonium sulphocyanide	...	...	...	55 grams
Alumina ammoniate	...	...	...	15 grams
Citric acid	...	...	...	15 grams
Lead acetate	...	...	...	20 grams
Lead nitrate	...	...	...	20 grams
Gold chloride	...	...	...	15 grams
Distilled water	...	...	...	400 grams

(2)				
Sodium thiosulphate	...	...	...	706 grams
Lead nitrate	...	...	...	160 grams
Distilled water	...	...	...	560 grams

Mix and add—

Gold chloride	...	...	...	2 grams
Distilled water	...	...	...	40 grams

Filtering or blotting paper is impregnated with the solution and dried. The amount of the constituents absorbed is ascertained by chemical analysis, and the paper cut up of such a size that a piece of it soaked in water makes a bath sufficient to tone a print of the same size as the absorbent paper. (23,809, 1902.)

"John Inglesant."

THE death of Mr. Joseph Henry Shorthouse last week has made known to the English world that a chemical-business founded in the eighteenth century is still to the fore—viz., that of Joseph Shorthouse & Sons—but a good deal of erroneous information has been printed about it. When we recently examined the old documents submitted to us by Mr. William Warren, the present proprietor of Messrs. Hooper & Co.'s business, 24 Russell Street, Covent Garden, W.C., we found amongst them an eighteenth-century letter signed "Thomas Shorthouse," and recognising the writer as one of "John Inglesant's" forebears, we wrote to the firm for some particulars, which we received a few days before Mr. J. H. Shorthouse's death. The old letter we reproduce in reduced facsimile:—

*Mr. Jones
Birmingham Sept. 3^d 1701*

*Sir & Rec^d Thy Letter yesterday Concerning the
Three Casks of Salts being six Rounds short in
Weight. They may be so as they have been above
Two Months on the way in the heat of the
Summer it is only Water that is Dry^d out and
if there is not too much Dry^d out my self
Be able to over get that Loss —
Dry Casks are not to be had at the same Price
as formerly they Lay me in all the money
& Charge them I will not Cask and pay the
Carriage & sell the Salts at so Low a price
I could a sold them for more money to deinde
People that have wanted them since they have
Been sent out - I have orderd them to be
sent for by Mess^{rs} Boultons and for them
To pay you the Charges and Remains thy
Dr. Tho^s Shorthouse*

The original letter is written on small quarto note-paper. The following is the authentic history of the firm:—

The business of manufacturing chemists and lacquer-manufacturers now carried on by Joseph Shorthouse & Sons in Great Charles Street and Shadwell Street, Birmingham, was commenced about 1766 by Mr. Thomas Shorthouse, who was brought up in a laboratory. He began a small wholesale drug-business on his own account, but devoted himself principally to the manufacture of dipping aqua fortis for cleaning brass and other metals. He is also believed to have been the first person to make lacquer, then called lacquer-varnish, for securing and colouring brasswork. He obtained his supply of sulphuric acid from Messrs. Skey at Bewdley in Worcestershire, on the Severn. The advantage of water-carriage on the river is supposed to have been the reason of the establishment of chemical-works at that little country town.

The price at which the dipping aqua fortis was sold was 10d. per lb. Nitric acid fetched 20d., and sulphuric acid 6d. per lb. Lacquer was sold at 16s. per gal. It was made with pure spirit of wine, but the duty was much lower than at present. When joined in business by his son Mr. William Shorthouse, operations were conducted on a larger scale, and the firm entered upon an American trade, exporting Birmingham and Sheffield manufactures. In 1799 Mr. William Shorthouse was forced to visit the United States in order to collect debts owing there. The outward voyage lasted two months, the captain being obliged to take a very

northerly course in order to avoid the French vessels of war which were lying in wait for English merchantmen. Having been fairly successful in the object of his journey, Mr. W. Shorthouse returned in May, 1800. As yellow fever was then very prevalent in the American cities during the hot season, it was not thought advisable for him to stay during the summer.

In 1805 Messrs. Shorthouse erected chemical-works in Shadwell Street, where they made sulphuric, nitric, and muriatic acids, sulphate of copper, and soda ash. They carried on at the same time the manufacture of lacquer in New Market Street. The American trade was carried on until 1826 when it ceased. Cargoes of sulphuric acid and sulphate of copper had been occasionally sent to the United States, but they exported principally Birmingham manufactures, especially brass buttons. Mr. Joseph Shorthouse, Mr. William Shorthouse's son, was engaged in the chemical and lacquer business for about fifty years on the same premises. After his retirement the business was conducted by his three sons, of whom Messrs. John William and Edmund Shorthouse survive. Mrs. Sarah Southall, who died in the spring of 1902, in her 101st year, was a sister of Mr. Joseph Shorthouse.

The late Mr. J. H. Shorthouse's business-life was, says the *Birmingham Daily Post*, wholly uneventful so far as relates to circumstances of interest to the public. His trade was carried on with success, and he was honourably known among business-men of the city. He married, at the age of 23, the daughter of Mr. John Scott, a member of a Cumberland family, and took up his residence at Beauford Road, Edgbaston. He commenced the writing of "John Inglesant" in 1865, but it is stated that he had conceived the idea of the book many years previously. He entered upon it with little idea of publishing it, and with still less anticipation of becoming famous by its means. The work was pursued rather as a recreation, and so was alternately taken up or laid aside during a period of ten years. Its ultimate publication was due to the solicitation of friends, and in July, 1880, an edition of one hundred copies only was printed, at the author's own cost. Of this edition Mr. Shorthouse distributed seventy-five copies amongst his friends, and the remaining twenty-five were placed in the hands of Messrs. Cornish for sale at the price of one guinea per copy. It appears that one of the first copies found its way through a friend of the author into the hands of Mrs. Humphrey Ward, who spoke of it to Messrs. Macmillan, and that firm sought and obtained Mr. Shorthouse's consent to bring out an edition for public sale.

The reviewers almost unanimously condemned it. But a copy reached Mr. Gladstone, who took it away to read during a week-end visit to Hawarden, and found it as interesting as Mrs. Humphrey Ward had found it. Then by some curious accident Mr. Gladstone was photographed holding a book under his arm; and in the published photograph the title could clearly be distinguished—"John Inglesant." Mr. Shorthouse was invited to one of Mr. Gladstone's literary reunions at Downing Street; this shy, retiring man was the talk of a season; and within four years 30,000 copies of "John Inglesant" had been printed and sold.



THE LATE MR. J. H. SHORTHOUSE
(From a sketch in the "Daily News").

EARLY PHOTOGRAPHIC PRICES.—Mr. E. Bailly, Ramsgate, sends us an interesting price-list of photographic chemicals issued many years ago by Mr. John Severn Walker, 25 The Cross, Worcester. The list bears no date, but the prices charged show that it was issued in the early days of wet-plate photography. Amongst the prices for chemicals, the following are the most noticeable in comparison with what are charged now: Glacial acetic acid, oz. 9d.; pyrogallie acid, oz. 20s.; ammonium iodide, oz. 6s.; potassium bromide, oz. 4s. 6d.; silver nitrate, crystals, oz. 5s.; soda hyposulphite, lb. 2s. 6d.

Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with O. N. DALTON, Esq., O.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," February 18, 1903.)

- "MELONOGEN" (no claim for "Melono"); for chemicals. By Meister Lucius & Brüning, Hoechst a/Main, c/o Abel & Imray, Birkbeck Bank Chambers, W.C. 250,152.
- "MURALINE" ("Mural" disclaimed); for chemicals. By W. Carson & Sons, Lombard Road, Battersea, S.W. 251,397.
- "NICOTYL" (no claim for "Nicot"); for an insecticide and fungicide. By W. J. M. Burton, 70 Durlay Road, Stamford Hill. 251,142.
- "CINNASALVOLENE"; for chemicals in classes 2 and 3. By F. Ashby, 47 Mark Lane, E.C. 251,265 and 251,256.
- "QUEENALINE" (no claim for "Queen"); for ointment and pills. By Edgar & Co. (Martha Jane Pease), 109 Queen's Road, Bayswater, W. 246,284.
- Portrait of the owner; for "Lawton's Black Salve." By Percy Walker, 14 Monk Street, Wakefield, chemist and druggist's traveller. 250,274.
- Label device for Ferroleum, an emulsion of cod liver oil, iron, and phosphorus. By the Ferroleum Company (F. M. Tuckett and Dr. G. Fierheller), 86 Clerkenwell Road, E.C. 248,957.
- "VIROL"; for chemicals. By Virol (Limited), 152 Old Street, E.C. 251,002.
- "GONNOLS" and "GONNOLINE"; for ointments. By the Science Development Company (Limited), 43 Monkwell Street, E.C. 251,066 and 251,402.
- "SACCORA"; for a dyspepsia remedy. By J. Birch, 37 Frederick Street, Rotherham. 251,088.
- "VITALOIDS" (no claim for "Vital"); for a preparation of iron. By T. Kerfoot & Co., Aslton-under-Lyne. 251,186.
- "LAXATINE" (no claim for "Laxa"); for chemicals. By G. B. Loeffler, 83 Upper Thames Street, E.C. 251,379.
- "SUGONUM"; for a chemical base for ointments. By Gale & Co., 15 Bouverie Street, E.C. 251,462.
- "ELIXOID"; for chemical. By Henry Solomon Wellcome, trading as Burroughs Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, E.C. 251,718.
- "FLEXNET" (no claim for "Flex"); for photographic apparatus. By Talbot & Eamer (George Jones), 54 Seel Street, Liverpool. 250,845.
- "E-GFO"; for poultry-food. By A. A. Pascoe, 13 Zalla Road, Nottingham. 251,123.
- "CHIKKO" (no claim for "Chick"); for poultry-food. By A. W. Trevathen, 116 Murdock Road, Handsworth, Staffs. 251,151.
- "VERTOSE"; for brewing sugar or syrup. By A. Boake Roberts & Co. (Limited), 100 Carpenters Road, Stratford, E. 251,181.
- Facsimile signature "Mornier-Lapostolle"; for peppermint liqueurs. By Mornier-Lapostolle, Paris, c/o Gedge & Feeney, 60 Queen Victoria Street, E.C. 243,599.
- "LIMEADE" (no claim for "Lime"); for goods in Class 44. By J. McGowan, 273 West Derby Road, Liverpool. 248,992.
- "BATEAU"; for common soap (Savon "Bateau"). By Price's Patent Candle Company (Limited), 31 Threadneedle Street, E.C. 250,814.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," February 25, 1903.)

- "ROC" and device of bird killing snake; for an embrocation. By the Mercer Oil Remedy Company, Regent House, Regent Street, W. 250,444.
- Device of firemen at work and wording "THEY TACKLE THE TROUBLE"; for compressed tablets. By A. J. Barnes, 1 Charlemont Street, Dublin, pharmaceutical chemist. 251,653.
- "NAMREH"; for goods in Class 3. By R. & J. Herman, 11 Warbreck Moor, Aintree, Liverpool, chemists. 251,679.
- Device of child plucking flowers, and words "PABULUM VITÆ"; for infants' and invalids' foods. By E. W. Simpson, 11 King Edward's Road, Hackney, N.E. 250,761.
- "NETT ELLA"; for mineral and aerated waters. By W. Leitch & Co. (Limited), 11 Greenside Lane, Edinburgh. 251,085.

"MUIRÉ" (no claim for "Muir"); for perfumery, &c. By Parke's Drug Stores (Limited), 173 High Street, Camden Town, N.W. 249,867.

"MARLINA" (no claim for "Marl"); for toilet-articles. By J. F. Marlar, 68 North Hill, Colchester, chemist and druggist. 251,052.

"JULIETTE"; for goods in Class 48. By Julia C. M. Johnson, 8 Hanover Street, Hanover Square, W. 251,121.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," March 4, 1903.)

Combination of devices; for chemicals. By Colthurst & Harding, Mansion House Chambers, 11 Queen Victoria Street, E.C. 251,134.

"VENUS"; for paints, colours, &c. By Pinchin, Johnson & Co. (Limited), Ratcliff, E. 251,444.

Device (man on galloping horse and wielding battle-axe) and facsimile signature of applicant; for Dr. Morse's Indian-root Pills. By W. H. Comstock, Brockville, Ontario, c/o J. E. Evans-Jackson & Co., 19-20 Holborn Viaduct, E.C. 250,103.

"ANTE-ITIS"; for a medicine. By C. S. Moore, Danvers, U.S.A., c/o H. Haddon & Co., 18 Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C. 250,899.

"VERONAL" (no claim for "Verona"); for a chemical. By E. Merck, Darmstadt, c/o F. Boehm, 16 Jewry Street, E.C. 251,242.

"PACIDERMA"; for an eczema-cure. By J. Paterson, 3 Swallow Street, Piccadilly, W. 251,451.

"EUBIOSE" (no claim for "Eu"); for medicinal preparations. By G. Creusemann & Co., 6 Lloyd's Avenue, Fenchurch Street, E.C. 251,453.

"FERAX" (no claim for "Fer"); for chemicals. By W. E. D. Shirliff, 66 Goldhawk Road, W. 251,610.

"VEBERINE"; for food-substances. By J. Crosfield & Sons (Limited), Warrington. 251,713.

Combination of devices (being a picture of Victoria College, Jersey, the Jersey flag, and wording); for Luce's eau de Cologne. By Luce's Eau de Cologne Company (Limited), 12 Little Britain, E.C. 249,652.

"HAMARA" (no claim for "Hamar"); for goods in Class 48. By Breidenbach & Co., 48 Greek Street, Soho, W. 251,666.

"PINNORA"; for perfumery and toilet-articles. By the Vinolia Company (Limited), Malden Crescent, N.W. 251,783.

Combination of devices (bunch of pears, lady using powder-puff on her face, and wording); for a complexion-powder. By A. & F. Pears (Limited), New Oxford Street, W.C. 251,629.

"TILIT"; for a mouthwash. By Carl Krause, Leipzig, c/o Abel & Imray, Birkbeck Bank Buildings, W.C. 251,825.

"PRACTICAL METHODS OF URINE-ANALYSIS" (offices of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., 2s. 6d.).—It matters not whether boards of health in some localities carry on analyses for physicians free of charge or whether some physicians consider it to be beyond the province of the pharmacist to conduct such analyses when he asks a reasonable recompense for his services, the fact remains that reputable pharmacists are in some instances doing this work for physicians, and are being paid for it. There are several reasons why the pharmacist is usually a proper person to do this work. Urinalysis is an analytical piece of work, and the graduates of colleges of pharmacy are trained analysts. Chemical analyses, pharmaceutical assays, and microscopical manipulations he performs daily during his college work. These are to the pharmacist of primary consideration, and while the physician may receive a certain amount of instruction in these branches, the work is all secondary to the practice of medicine with its multiplicity of other details with which he is engrossed. Urinalysis and blood-examinations are an aid in his diagnoses. These require the time that the physician needs for attending to his office practice or at the bedside of the patient. The busy practitioner does not usually attend to his practice and carry on his analyses any more than he compounds his own medicine. These things he delegates to the pharmacist whom he has learned is competent and trustworthy. There are many works on the examination of the urine, nearly all of which are written from the viewpoint of the physician. The present book is written for the pharmacist, and is a clear and concise treatment of the essentials that are necessary for everyday work in analysis. . . . The work is to be commended to pharmacists and chemists, as the subject is considered, we believe, with the right end in view—viz., the analysis of urine and not so much what these analyses indicate this belonging essentially to the province of the physician, with whom the results of urinalysis is but one of several factors leading to the diagnosis of disease.—*Am. Jour. Pharm.*

Correspondence

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

Oil of Citron.

SIR,—Citron oil is still confounded abroad with cedrat oil, both being known in England by the name of "cedro or citron or cedrat oil," in Germany by "cedro or cedrat oel," and in France by "essence de cédrat." Consequently when I published in the columns of this paper [*C. & D.*, lx. (1902), 19] the characters of the pure oil of cedron made from "cedri," I drew upon myself the criticism of the London Essence Company. This firm in an article [*C. & D.*, lx. (1902), 132] strongly objected to my statements, and endeavoured to prove that I had made a mistake, and that I wished to "go back to the old accepted figures." Though I have already declared [*C. & D.*, lxi. (1902), 248] that I had made and examined another variety of oil, I want, nevertheless, to clear up the question. I have therefore pressed this year in my laboratory two qualities of citron oil. The one which should be called "citron oil" has been made by hand-pressure from "cedri" (*Citrus medica citrea*), the other, which should be called "cedrat oil," was made from "cedrini" (*Citrus medica citrea gibocarpa*). The two oils have different physical and chemical characters, though both have the same opaque and silky appearance. I have recently published [*C. & D.*, lxii. (1903), 22] the characters of the pure "cedrat oil," which I state here below, together with those of "citron oil" obtained last year as well as this year:—

—	Sp. Gr.	Opt. Rot.	Boiling-point
Citron oil (season 1901-2) ...	0.8706	+ 67	—
Citron oil (season 1902-3) ...	0.869	+ 65° 30'	175°-210°
Citrat oil (1902-3) ...	0.851	+ 80° 50'	60°-100°

As is seen from the foregoing figures, the properties of cedron oil made from "cedri" fairly agree with those obtained previously (1895) by Gildemeister and Hoffmann ("The Volatile Oils," 1900, page 477, *Report*, Schimmel & Co., 1895, page 13), Charabot, Parry, and other workers. On the contrary, the characters of cedrat oil agree with those at first obtained by Mr. H. E. Burgess [*The Analyst*, xxvi. (1901), 260]. The fact is they are two qualities of oil with different characters. It is quite necessary, I think, to clear up this point to avoid further mistakes and discussions on the subject.

DOTTOR SALVATORE GULLI.

Reggio Calabria, February 26, 1903.

Agricultural and Horticultural Poisonous Preparations.

SIR,—In thanking you for insertion of my letter in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of February 23, page 368, and in continuance of it, send copy of a resolution passed last Saturday at a meeting of the Worcestershire Chamber of Agriculture, also at a meeting of the Worcestershire Farmers' Association. I understand a similar resolution has been submitted to all such agricultural chambers and associations in the country, and will, probably without exception, be adopted by them. No doubt this procedure will greatly accentuate the adverse and unfair position chemists and druggists are being placed in through the retrograde recommendations of the Departmental Committee on Poisons, and is a further instance of the urgent necessity the trade should wake up and be considering the means how best to combat the injudicious opening out of the sale of these dangerous poisonous compounds to ignorant and unqualified dealers. Some of the evidence given before the committee appears to

have been of a very misleading character—for example, the evidence of a witness from this locality was to the effect that the Pharmaceutical Society regulated the selling-prices of these articles, and could raise them, if the Society thought proper, to the detriment and disadvantage of the purchaser.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

Worcester, March 10.

JOHN TWINBERROW.

[The resolution is in the following terms:—"This meeting being of opinion that undue restrictions are at present imposed by the Pharmacy Act, 1868, on agriculturists, horticulturists, and others in obtaining poisonous compounds used in the course of their business, and that it is expedient for the convenience of the public and in the interests of trade that the law relative to the sale of poisonous compounds (where required for horticultural or agricultural purposes) should be altered and amended; resolve that the Government be respectfully requested to introduce a Bill amending the law in this direction, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the First Lord of the Treasury, the President of the Board of Agriculture, and to the Lord President of his Majesty's Privy Council."]

Monthly Statements.

SIR,—I would like to assure Mr. Postlethwaite, and others who have commented upon my complaints *re* monthly statements, that I am perfectly satisfied at the result attained by this correspondence, and have no intention of renewing my grievance, beyond the publication of the present letter.

I cordially agree with Mr. Postlethwaite as to the necessity for systematic dealing with every department of business, financial and otherwise. Like himself, I could at any moment determine my indebtedness to any firm with whom I do business, but when it comes to paying the account, it is necessary, I think, that the statement should be furnished from headquarters.

Whilst it is convenient, perhaps, to pay accounts to travellers, and is undoubtedly a custom of the trade, so far as my own practice is concerned I never do so, all payments being remitted through the post direct to the firm. I find that this economises time during business hours, and induces the travellers to account for their visits in some better way than through the fact of having money to collect.

Your correspondent "Methodical Retailer" has settled the question for himself, and it is encouraging to hear of the success of his business-like procedure. I must admit at last what I feared at first, that the only practical solution is that the individual retailer must insist for himself upon reasonable conformity with his requirements.

I am, therefore, much indebted to "Xrayser," both for the excellent suggestion he has made and for the "copy" of slip-label which he has supplied. It is now pointed out clearly to retailers how they can make arrangements to provide against the perpetually recurring annoyances which first induced me to seek your assistance in remedying.

I am, faithfully yours,

AN ORDINARY RETAILER. (242/17.)

Ipecacuanha-assay.

SIR,—I find it difficult to understand why my letter in reply to that of Mr. Cownley should be considered by him inconsistent, and I look upon it as a matter for regret that he does not appear to be able to give a straight answer to what I consider to be a straight question. Does or does not Mr. Cownley consider his process for the separation and determination of the ipecacuanha alkaloids as applicable to the standardisation of galenical preparations of that drug? My experience shows it not to be so. Mr. Cownley's somewhat fierce but not very intelligible tirade against the Pharmacopoeia authorities will make interesting reading for Dr. Attfield.

I am, yours faithfully,

Birmingham, March 10.

JOHN BARCLAY.

Mr. Walshaw's Candidature.

SIR,—I wish to ask each hon. secretary to whom I sent a copy of Mr. Walshaw's address to kindly cancel the circular signed by me. It was quite unofficial, and, as I am wholly and solely to blame, I trust that Mr. Walshaw's prospects will not be affected thereby. Mr. Walshaw still remains a candidate for the Council quite independent of the West Riding Federation.

I am, yours faithfully,

Batley, March 10.

R. BROADHEAD.

Indoor v. Outdoor Situations.

SIR,—The thing which strikes me as most peculiar in this correspondence is that sight seems entirely to be lost of the fact that dispensing-businesses in residential districts must, of necessity, have resident assistants, unless the proprietor chooses to chain himself to the place every night in the week. Take my own experience by way of illustration. I was at one time in a business where we could close punctually, and everybody could afterwards do as he pleased, but in my next situation one assistant had always to take turn to remain on duty for requirements after ordinary business hours, and I can safely say that in the five years during which I was there not a single night passed without something medical or surgical being required, either before going to bed or afterwards. Now, if young fellows are to object to indoor situations because of this after-hour duty, what are they to expect when they come to own a business? Do they intend to do all this work themselves, or do they expect a new order of things to arise, and to find the young assistants willing to do what they would not? And what, after all, does this dreadful thing amount to? In the majority of cases to nothing more than settling down to a comfortable quiet reading with one's slippers on, and just an occasional attention to the calls of messengers from the sick; and I am not sure that some of our young men would not be much better both mentally and morally if they did spend a few more evenings in this way and a few less in the billiard-room, or the bar, or in prowling about the stage-doors of our theatres, or in places more questionable still. We know that both masters and men differ very much, and that a priggish assistant more often than not is a prig after he becomes an employer; but really, sir, the members of our craft are not all prigs—some, I trust, are gentlemen. As an assistant I was fortunate in living with gentlemen and was treated as one, and have never had the slightest regret that I lived "indoor." Since I have been an employer, and been compelled by the exigencies of business to keep indoor assistants, I have had all kinds—some of them gentlemen whom it has been a pleasure to have at one's table, and some of whom the best that could be said is that they conducted themselves, not as if they were members of a respectable household, not as though they desired to feel at home or to be agreeable, but rather as if they were living in some third-rate lodging-house. After all, it will remain a question of need. The man who has no need for an assistant to take turn at supplying the little calls out of regular business hours is better without the nuisance of indoor assistants, but where the business requires one, there will always be some assistants to be found with sense enough to know that, as they expect to be served when in business on their own account, so must they be prepared to serve others now; whose whole thought is not how little they can do for their employer nor how much they can find to grumble at, but rather how much there is to be satisfied with, and how best and honestly to serve the interests of their employer. I count it no small pleasure that the one of my old employers still living always gives me a warm welcome, but greater still to receive visits from some of my old assistants who refer with pleasure to the days they spent as members of this household. There are some the memory of whose sojourn comes as a nightmare.

VERAX. (234/61.)

Stores and Assistants.

SIR,—A correspondent, who signs himself "Respectable Chemist's Shop," says in your issue of March 7 that he cannot make out why qualified men go to the stores for the wage of 2*l.* 10*s.* or 3*l.* per week. I can, for this wage, *plus*, say, 30*s.* per month as commission, is a very fair amount. And with the stores the hours are less and the usual holidays longer than with the ordinary chemist. The unqualified man has a better position, too. I know a qualified man who manages a branch for an ordinary chemist, and who works from 8.30 every day until 9 at night and 11 on Saturday, with five hours off on a Tuesday. He also works for three hours on Sunday. His wages are 38*s.* per week, he gets no "com." and has to live out. This is, I think, enough to send him to a stores' branch.

A lady brought a prescription to our shop the other day for which she was charged 10*d.* She was surprised, and said that she had paid 1*s.* 6*d.* for it at Mr. Blank's. I give

a copy of it in order to show whether she was overcharged or not:—

Sodii bicarb. ...	...	...	...	...	9ij.
Bismuth subnit. ...	...	...	...	...	3iss.
Ac. hydrocy. dil. ...	...	...	...	...	mxxiv.
Spt. ammon. ar. ...	...	...	...	...	3ij.
Aq. menth. pip. ad ...	...	...	...	...	5viij.

M. Ft. mist.

Sig.: 3ss. t.d.s. p.c.

I am sure many will agree that while this sort of thing continues I am justified in remaining,

Yours faithfully,

March 8.

ANOTHER STORES MAN. (240/23.)

SIR,—I notice in to-day's issue of your welcome journal that Mr. C. E. Pickering makes an assertion which to me is astounding, and which I am sure is not according to the experience of chemists generally. He says that unless a business of 1,000*l.* a year is a dispensing one it does not require any assistance beyond the principal. I think if he were to go through a week's work with me he would modify his opinion. My business is not a dispensing one—in fact, it is almost non-dispensing—and my turnover is less than 1,000*l.* per annum. I have on occasion, when unable to obtain an assistant, worked it with no other help than an errand-lad for a month or two, but I have felt like a physical wreck at the end of that time. A strong man might manage it for a few years, but he would have to be content to be a slave, and a mere machine, with no human interests beyond his work, and under such circumstances life is not worth living.

March 7.

LANCASTRIAN. (240/46.)

SIR,—However well up Mr. Pickering may be in his immediate business, he evidently knows little or nothing concerning the conditions under which the drug-trade is carried on. His statement that a business returning 1,000*l.* per annum should require no assistance beyond the principal is as ridiculous as the statement that "I am not any good at figures beyond figure 1" is childish. "One of Boots' Branch Managers," in a recent letter (*vide* page 231), says, "Our income is equal to the net profits of many trading on their own account," which tends to prove my contention. Moreover, my figures can be corroborated by hundreds of chemists up and down the country; nevertheless, Mr. Pickering may rest assured that I am not desirous of posing either as a mathematician or as a leader of men.

Yours, &c.,

LAST STRAW. (241/62.)

We receive from Mr. C. E. Pickering as we go to press with this section of the journal a letter in which he says:—

One of the largest "cash chemists" sought an interview with me this week with the view to appointing me manager of one of its numerous branches. As a result of that interview it astonishes me beyond measure that several hundred qualified men can be induced to sink their dignity by engaging in such service. They have sixty hours' duty each week, at about 1*s.* an hour, subject to an agreement which there can be no question is as tyrannical and servile in its conditions as such a precious document can be made. By its clauses each man's individuality is completely destroyed, and his position is reduced to that of, or below that of, a common servant.

Legal Queries.

Consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1903, before formulating Queries.

231/47. *Rhamnus*.—In re-packing special manufactures which have a trade-mark name it is essential that the name of the manufacturers should precede or follow the name of the article. For example, in the case of vaseline, which is commonly re-packed in small containers, those who re-pack this article should label it, "Vaseline; manufactured by the Chesebrough Manufacturing Company." The principle applies generally, but the owners of any trade-mark may at any time inquire as to the use of their trade-mark by others, and in some cases could by injunction restrain such use.

107/29. *J. K. L.*—It is legal to use on one's sign or labels such phrases as "Late with Blank & Co." if no agreement to the contrary had been made with one's late employers, or if the phrase is not employed in such a way as to be calculated to deceive.

236/41. *Enterprising.*—It is legal to send out goods on approbation, but if delivered at a house and money is taken on the spot for them, the purchaser not having ordered them at the place of business, the transaction may be peddling or hawking.

240/31. *J. W.*—A retailer may keep any quantity of methylated spirit in stock up to 50 gals. If he wish to keep more than that he must give a bond.

215/74. *Orno.*—By Section 12 of the 1852 Pharmacy Act it is a penal offence for any person not registered under that Act to use, assume, or exhibit any name, title, &c., implying that he is a member of the Society. By Section 3 of the 1898 Act any chemist and druggist may be elected a member. But the penal provision has not been repealed. The fact that you have paid 20*l.* in examination-fees does not entitle you to life-membership. If you desire to cease to be a member, all that you have to do is to notify the Secretary of the Society of the fact and return the certificate of membership (not the Minor certificate). There is nothing in the Pharmacy Acts to prevent you using the title "M.P.S.," saving Section 12 as quoted, which applies equally to those who have passed the modified and Minor examinations and are subscribers to the Society; but the Society could stop your use of the title by injunction. As a case in point, we may state that recently the *Lancet* called attention to a circular-letter issued by a North London chemist in the following terms:—

MADAM,—A word to the wise is sufficient. In all cases of Indigestion, Persistent or Recurrent Headaches, Habitual Constipation, Anæmia, Bad Legs, and other forms of Female Weakness or Irregularity, prompt attention is the only method of averting serious trouble. If you present this Card at my counter you will be shown at once into my private consulting room. I charge nothing for advice and I WILL HELP YOU IF I CAN. At any rate a few minutes' strictly private conversation with a fully qualified chemist will cost you nothing, and a few herbs, a box of pills, or a bottle of medicine IF TAKEN IN TIME may save you a great deal of suffering and expense.

I am, Madam,
At your Service,
FRANCIS E. BUSTARD (M.P.S.)

The Secretary of the Society informed the *Lancet* that Mr. Bustard "is no longer a member of this Society, and will not be permitted to continue to use the initials 'M.P.S.'"

228/28. *F. P.*—The only way now available for registration as a veterinary surgeon is to go through the four years' curriculum and pass the professional examinations.

229/48. *Liverpool.*—The bedtime tea is not liable to medicine-stamp duty, although it is recommended thus:—

Positively cures costiveness, sick-headache, biliousness, indigestion. Prevents bad colds, saves doctors' bills, cures back-ache, purifies the blood, and does away with all need for pills. It is a most excellent remedy for all female ailments.

If the tea is a drug it is an entire drug in the sense of the 1812 schedule, and therefore exempt.

236/49. *Meth.*—A person who is not licensed to sell methylated spirit may not compound and sell a mixture containing methylated spirit, except the liniments authorised by General Order. Even a licensed retailer may not mix ammonia and essential oils with methylated spirit. See THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, page 538.

234/9. *J. M.*—The agreement between you and the doctor as to paying him a percentage on his prescriptions is quite legal, and can be enforced. If any action in respect to it came into court, with you as defendant, you would probably lose; and, in the event of the matter coming to the knowledge of the General Medical Council, a new basis for "infamous conduct in a professional" respect would be provided. We do not think the Council would strike the doctor's name off the register, but they might condemn the practice of medical practitioners receiving commission on

prescriptions, although that is doubtful in cases where medical men transfer dispensing-work from which they have previously obtained direct profit. Except in the case of members of the Royal College of Physicians, profit-sharing is not expressly prohibited.

233/59. *Safe Side.*—Might we suggest the desirability of your reading the report of the Poisons Committee, printed in our issue of February 21? You will not find calomel mentioned there as a suggested addition to the Poisons Schedule.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

226/37. *Altior* asks for information as to the best treatment of "salt-water boils" which affect sailors and fishermen. "Salt-water boils" is a popular description including a variety of conditions of which by far the commonest among seafaring people is that associated with a too limited green-vegetable dietary and the excessive use of salted and preserved food. Besides advising a liberal green-vegetable meal at least once a day and a more restricted use of salted and preserved food, the juice of a lemon, morning and evening, as a drink should be recommended. Considerable relief will be felt by washing the skin with warm boracic lotion, drying it, and then dusting the affected parts with a dusting-powder made up of equal parts of powdered starch and oxide of zinc.

239/40. *G. A.*—(1) Please refer to our last Educational Number, September 7, 1902, for information regarding dental education. (2) The disadvantage of cocaine in tooth-extractions is that in the case of people with a weak heart it may induce collapse or worse.

238/37. *Interested* is referred to our last Educational Number for information regarding the Apothecaries' Assistants' examinations. The Dublin one is not recognised in Great Britain, nor the London one in Ireland. Neither entitles the holder to sell poisons.

219/23. *W. E. K.*—Colouring an Acid-mixture.—If a mixture of tincture of cudbear and caramel is not to your liking, try a little aniline dye, such as acid magenta.

200/28. *Stencil.*—Dry Stencil Ink is a mixture of equal parts of drop black [or Venetian red, or Prussian blue] and powdered acacia. Water is to be gradually added to the powder when required for use. The ink-tablet formula which you refer to is not suited for stencil purposes. The recipe given above is for a cheap product, the quality of the powdered gum determining the price.

234/55. *E. E. R.*—You cannot prevent hydroquinone developer darkening when the solution is exposed to the air, although the use of sodium sulphite or potassium metaspulphite retards oxidation.

219/58. *A. U. M.*—Any of the following firms would undertake the mounting of South African snakes and lizards: Geo. Butt, 39 Edgware Road, W.; Jas. Gardner, 29 and 31 Oxford Street, W.; Rowland Ward, 166 Piccadilly, W.

232/23. *Monsieur Cryptogame.*—The following books are suited to your requirements: Greenish's "Materia Medica," 15*s.* (Churchill); Newth's "Inorganic Chemistry," 6*s.* 6*d.* (Longmans); Perkin and Kipping's "Organic Chemistry," 6*s.* 6*d.* (Chambers). New editions of Squire's "Companion" and "Pharmaceutical Formulas" have been published within the last two years.

228/17. *Yorkshire.*—If the acetic acid has completely dissolved the iron sesquioxide you have a strong solution of acetate of iron, which could be given in 5 to 10 drop doses in neuralgia. To make a good neuralgia-mixture, add to each dose tr. gelsem. $\text{m}\times$, spt. chloroform. $\text{m}\times$, and dilute with water to a tablespoonful.

225/52 (*C. F.*) and 234/33 (*J. B.*).—Thanks for your letters and the cuttings.

218/38. *Antitoxin*.—Books dealing with Serum-treatment: L. Browne, "Koch's Remedy in Relation especially to Throat Consumption," 5s.; C. Conder, "Koch's Proposed Cure for Consumption," 2s.; Grün and Severn, "Handbook of Dr. Koch's Treatment of Tubercular Diseases," 3s. 6d.; G. E. Krieger, "Blood-serum Therapy and Antitoxins," 5s. (Chicago); G. M. Sternberg, "Immunity, Protective Inoculations in Infectious Diseases, and Serum Therapy," 12s. (New York).

228/18. *Huntsman*.—We cannot suggest any alteration of the Boot-top dressing formula without radically altering it.

230/17. *A. J.*—Medical homes or institutions are advertised in the *Lancet* and *British Medical Journal*. We cannot well advise you without knowing what kind of case it is desired to find a home for.

221/55. *Veterinary*.—The label for white oils which you send contemplates an ammoniacal preparation, as it is on account of the stimulating properties that "white oils" is given to cattle internally. We last gave formulas for white oils in the *C. & D.*, July 20, 1901, page 107, and December 28, 1901, page 1059. Keep the proportion of liq. ammonia down to about 1 in 8 of the finished product.

213/26. *Carmen*.—(1) To Frost Windows, the glass is painted over with a solution of Epsom salts in beer. If a ground-glass appearance is desired, it is obtained by rubbing down zinc oxide with linseed oil and painting thinly on the glass, afterwards stippling or dabbing with a stiff brush. (2) The Dentifrice you send owes its flavour to pulv. myrrh. It also contains some pulv. os sepiae.

219/25. *Coda* (Turin).—We have not heard of "Lubri-condrina"—is it a proprietary article?

232/24. *Mac*.—Books on *x-ray Apparatus*.—Isenthal and Ward's "Practical Radiography," 2s. 6d. (Dawbarn & Ward), and Walsh's "Röntgen Rays in Medical Work," 10s. 6d. (Baillière, Tindall & Cox).

221/73. *Chionia*.—Arrhenal is an organic compound of arsenic—monomethyl sodium arsenate, known also as neoarscodile. It is a colourless crystalline salt, very soluble in water, but only slightly in alcohol. Arrhenal is used in the treatment of tuberculosis, malaria, and other affections requiring the use of arsenic. The salt is administered hypodermically or by the mouth in quantities of not more than 1 gr. per day.

220/13. *Rusticus*.—The advertisements of share-brokers in the *C. & D.* Coloured Supplement will give you an idea of the present price of Camwal shares.

199/37. *C. M.*—Your postcard is not clear. In what sense do you speak of "the exhibition" of drugs?

207/34. *Alpha*.—Try filtering your tr. calumbæ through a layer of sand on lint, as suggested by Mr. Bird for liq. calumbæ.

223/65. *Apiol*.—(1) Green Sap, or sap green as it is usually called, is made by evaporating to dryness the juice of buckthorn-berries or privet to which nearly as much lime-water has been added. Some gum acacia is also usually present. (2) Aniline Oil of commerce is a mixture of aniline, toluidine, xyldine, and other by-products of the manufacture of aniline colours. It is used as a solvent. (3) *Mel Egyptiacum* is a remnant of ancient pharmacy which was official in the P.L. up to 1836. It is made from such a formula as the following:—

Verdigris	...	...	...	1 oz.
Vinegar	...	...	...	7 oz.
Purified honey	...	...	...	14 oz.

Dissolve the verdigris in the vinegar, strain, and boil with the honey till thick.

222/16. *W. E. M.*—Compressed Tablets.—A booklet by Frank Edell on "How to make Tablets" will initiate you in the general principles of this branch of pharmacy. Reference should also be made to the chapter on tablets in Caspan's "Pharmacy," and to a paper by Mr. Sivewright on the subject published in the *C. & D.*, April 26, 1902, page 657.

In making sublimate-tablets the hydrargyri perchloridum is diluted with sodium chloride and a small quantity of water-soluble aniline blue. For 100 tablets containing 1 gram of hydr. perchlor. the following are the ingredients:—

Mercuric chloride	...	...	...	100 grams
Common salt	...	...	...	120 grams
Aniline blue	...	...	...	q.s.
Spirit	...	...	...	q.s. to moisten

Carbolic acid is made into tablets by the use of sugar of milk, or by fusion of the crystallised acid and moulding. The A. & H. tablet-machine (*C. & D.*, November 1, 1902, page 751) is one of the best machines for tablet-making.

220/10. *R. S.*—(1) *Pommade Hongroise*.—The following recipe from "Pharmaceutical Formulas" has yielded satisfactory results in our hands:—

Spermaceti	...	...	...	3ij.
White or yellow wax	...	...	...	3iiss.
Distilled water	...	...	...	3vj.
Gum arabic	...	...	...	3ij.
Powdered soap	...	...	...	3x.
Glycerin	...	...	...	5ij.
Bergamot and geranium oils (of each)	...	...	...	3ss.

Rub the soap and the gum with 3iiss. of the water to a smooth fluid. Melt the wax and the spermaceti with the rest of the water in a water-bath, and mix with it the first compound (warmed) gradually, with vigorous stirring, keeping the wax-mixture still hot. Then remove all from the water-bath, add the glycerin drop by drop, stirring assiduously all the time, and meanwhile incorporating the perfume. If the pomade has to be kept for a time add acid. benzoic. 3ss. The pomade is much improved by keeping for a month before bottling, and rubbing it in a mortar twice a week. For black or brown pomade a little umber or sienna may be rubbed smooth with the glycerin. For the white kind white wax only must be used.

(2) We do not care to advise as to the best process for silvering the inside of a large boiler, as our experience is too limited in that field.

233/15. *M. Y. M.* (Madras).—The photographs you send were not properly fixed, hence the darkening which takes place on drying and exposure to light. The fixing-bath you use is either too weak in sodium hyposulphite, or you do not allow the prints to remain in it a sufficient time.

234/29. *H. W. S.*—Thanks for your suggestion. Does not Adeps Adeptis give you the ideas you want?

229/5. *E. A. J.*—Your sketch is not too elaborate for reproduction, but it is in bad taste.

228/32. *S. W. E.*—Combined Toning and Fixing Bath. We must refer you to THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1902, where several formulae for this bath are given. Purple tones are only insured by a liberal quantity of gold chloride, although lead salts are used to that end.

229/46. *Ink*.—(1) The body in Shoemakers' Inks is obtained by adding fine lampblack. If the recipes in "Pharmaceutical Formulas" do not give enough body, simply increase the quantity of lampblack. (2) Shoe-gloss. We do not know the kind you mention, but if it is of the Nubian-blackening type there are several likely recipes in "Pharmaceutical Formulas."

232/14. *A. G. P.*—The following are the chief books on Mechanical Dentistry: Richardson's "Mechanical Dentistry," 22s. (Churchill); "Pearsall's "Mechanical Practice in Dentistry," 18s. (Claudius Ash); Rose's "Dental Mechanics": Part I., Vulcanite Work, 2s. 6d.; Part II., The Dental Laboratory, 3s.; Part III., Plate Work, 3s. (Segg). You will also notice that a dental firm are advertising in the Coloured Supplement that they give lessons in the various branches of mechanical dentistry.

233/23. *Booco*.—Sodium bicarbonate gives a sparkle to flat beer.

225/60. *Xylem*.—You put the boot on the wrong foot. Mr. C. E. Pickering is not the promoter of the C.A.A., but of a society which has tried to do what you say the C.A.A. ought to do. It is always wise to be sure of your facts before writing "a letter to the Editor."

Reviews.

The Testing of Chemical Reagents for Purity. By Dr. C. KRAUCH. Translated by J. A. WILLIAMSON, F.C.S., and L. W. DUPRÉ. 10 x 6. Pp. 350. London: Maclaren & Sons.

THIS translation of the third German edition of Dr. Krauch's useful book should prove acceptable to those responsible for the management of chemical laboratories devoted to analytical work, whether for educational or for research purposes. It is essential to the performance of accurate chemical-analysis work that the reagents employed should be of a high degree of purity, and if the operator is to have confidence in the results of his own work he must test the purity of his reagents for himself. The book under review will be of great aid to him in doing so, by indicating which impurities are likely to be found in the various reagents and giving trustworthy and sufficient directions for their detection and quantitative determination. The impurities mentioned under the headings of the various substances are mostly those which might legitimately find their way into these through imperfections in the manufacturing processes—the gentle art of intentional sophistication scarcely being taken into account, as such. We sought to ascertain what Dr. Krauch's methods might be for examining boric acid containing calcium borate in large quantity, and for determining the mercury in vermilion composed entirely of red-lead "flushed" with a scarlet dye of carefully chosen hue; but as neither boric acid nor vermilion is a "reagent" within the meaning of the book, we obtained no light. It is a pity the translators have not been more systematic in their nomenclature, so as to avoid the occurrence of such pairs of headings as cupric chloride and copper sulphate, mercury bichloride and mercuric nitrate, &c. In these twentieth-century days, when the Chemical Societies, both of London and of Berlin, issue tables of "international" atomic weights with the most recent corrections, the quotation in 1902 of a table of atomic weights from a text-book published in 1890 is scarcely defensible.

A History of Hindu Chemistry. By PRAPHULLA CHANDRA RAY, D.Sc., Professor of Chemistry in Presidency College, Calcutta. Vol. I. London: Williams & Norgate.

WE regard this as the most important contribution that has been made within recent times to our knowledge of the earlier history of chemistry. We understand that Professor Ray enjoys special facilities for obtaining access to the most ancient Sanskrit medical manuscripts, in which many references are made to processes for the preparation of chemical substances and to the substances themselves (which include metals, alloys, acids, alkalies, &c.); and we know, moreover, that he possesses the combined qualities of scholarship and of dogged perseverance which pre-eminently fit him to explore this, from the chemical point of view, *terra incognita*. We do not profess to be able to offer an opinion as to whether the dates which he assigns to the manuscripts discussed in this first volume of his history are to be accepted as definitely settled; but we admit our conviction that, for example, he has established his views that, in India, zinc was known as a distinct metal, and that potash and soda were recognised as different substances, centuries before they were so regarded in Western Europe. Dr. Ray's contention is that chemical knowledge reached the Arabians and the Greeks, and, eventually, the peoples of the West generally, from originally Indian sources; and this contention he intends to make good by aid of the present and of a future volume. We hope that the reception accorded to this first volume will be such as to encourage the author in the preparation of the second. The work is well worth doing, and Dr. Ray is the man to do it well.

The Principles and Practice of Homœopathy. By RICHARD HUGHES, L.R.C.P. Ed., &c. Large 8vo. Pp. x + 790. London, 1902: Leath & Ross, 58 Duke Street, W.

AT the time of his death the author of this valuable work had finished the MS., but only half the proof-sheets had passed through his hands, and Dr. Dudgeon has seen it through the press. Dr. Hughes was eminently a true

homœopathist, but singularly free from those extreme fads which keep this method of practising medicine outside the range of accepted doctrine. His book, of which this is the first edition since 1878, consists of a series of lectures which he delivered to students of homœopathy, and revised for publication. It is extremely interesting, especially in the proof which he advances of the service which Hahnemann did to therapeutics by breaking down the polypharmic practices of those days. That was practically what started him in the researches which culminated in his formulation of the doctrine *Similia similibus eurentur* (let likes be treated by likes). Dr. Hughes tells how Hahnemann in his extreme old age carried his notions of infinitesimal doses to extreme and indefensible lengths; indeed, the frankness of the book is one of its charms. The first fourteen chapters of the book deal with the history and principles of homœopathy. In these pharmacists will find much that specially interests them. The rest of the chapters consist of a systematic study of all the ills to which flesh is heir, and their treatment. Although essentially homœopathic, the information given in these chapters can be read with profit by medical practitioners of any school, and the book is not too technical for use by the laity. It is certainly one which chemists can recommend and stock.

New Books.

Chemical Manufacturers' Directory of England, Wales, and Scotland, with some of the Firms in Ireland. 1903. 8vo. Boards. 2s. 6d. net. (Simpkin.)

Chemical Technology; or, Chemistry in its Applications to Arts and Manufactures. With which is incorporated Richardson and Watts' "Chemical Technology." Vol. 4: Electric Lighting, Photometry. Ed. by W. J. Dibdin. 10 x 6½. Pp. 396. 20s. (Churchill.)

Clarke, E. *The Errors of Accommodation and Refraction of the Eye and their Treatment.* 7½ x 4½. Pp. 236. 5s. net. (Ballière.)

Equivalents of English Pounds and Kilogrammes. Pp. 43. 2s. 6d. net. (Effingham Wilson, Royal Exchange.) [A ready-reckoner for merchants and others who wish to find at a glance the exact equivalents, the results having been worked out to three places of decimals.]

How to Enforce Payment of Debt: an Easy Guide to Business Men. 7½ x 4½. Pp. 120. 2s. (Richards.)

Lafar, F. *Technical Mycology: the Utilisation of Micro-Organisms in the Arts and Manufactures.* Trans. by C. T. C. Salter. Vol. 2: Eumycetic Fermentation. Part 1. 66 Figures in the Text. 8½ x 5½. Pp. 193. 7s. 6d. (Griffin.)

Litchfield, R. B. *Tom Wedgwood, the First Photographer: his Life, his Discovery, his Friendship with Samuel Taylor Coleridge, incl. Letters of Coleridge to the Wedgwoods, and Examination of Accounts of alleged earlier Photographic Discoveries.* 9 x 5½. Pp. 290. 8s. net. (Duckworth.)

London Matriculation Chemistry Papers. The last fifty-six Papers set at the Matric. Exam. of the University, with Model Answers to the Paper of September, 1902. Pp. 100. 1s. 6d. (Clive.)

Moore, W. J. *Family Medicine and Hygiene for India.* 7th ed. 12s. (Churchill.)

Sargant, W. L. *Forty Elementary Lessons in Chemistry.* 7½ x 4½. Pp. 172. 1s. 6d. (Blackwood & S.)

Seeligmann, T., &c. *Indiarubber and Gutta-percha.* Trans. from the French. Illus. 10 x 6. Pp. 414. 12s. 6d. net. (Scott & G.)

THE latest monographs issued from the Wellcome Chemical Research Laboratories respecting the work done therein are as follows:—

No. 28.—"Variations in the Occurrence of Salicin and Salinigrin in Different Willow and Poplar Barks," by H. A. D. Jowett, D.Sc., and C. E. Potter, B.Sc.

No. 29.—"The Constituents of Commercial Chrysarobin," by H. A. D. Jowett, D.Sc., and C. E. Potter, B.Sc.

Nos. 30, 31.—"The Constituents of an Essential Oil of Rue," by Frederick P. Power, Ph.D., and Frederic H. Lees. "Methyl β-Methylhexyl Ketone," by F. H. Lees.

No. 32.—"Interaction of Ketones and Aldehydes with Acid Chlorides; the Formation of Benzoxy Olefines and *l*-Benzoxycamphene," by Frederic H. Lees.

For Trade Report, see page 443.

MANAGER or Assistant; qualified; outdoors; West-end Dispensing and smart Counter experience; good references. "W. S.," 2 Waterton Road, London, W.

DISPENSER (qualified) wants evening employment (would share with another) Tuesdays and Fridays only. "G. P.," 53 Barnsdale Road, St. Peter's Park, W.

ASSISTANT: outdoors; married; S.W. district preferred; could invest £100 in business; good all-round experience, 10 years London. 109/10, Office of this Paper.

FRANCIS & CO., Chemists, Wrexham, can recommend Senior: unqualified; 6 years' reference; excellent all-round experience; Photographic: good counterman.

GENTLEMAN, with 16 years' medical experience, requires employment; excellent references. Address, Edwards, 22 Belgrave Road, South Norwood, S.E.

SURGEON'S Dispenser.—Reliable Surgeon's Dispenser, Dresser, and Bookkeeper; disengaged end of March. Address, Wm. Powell, 2 Regent Street, Liverpool.

UNQUALIFIED: Manager or Assistant; varied experience; Extractor; aged 40; married; highest references; Photography. "W." (112/40), Office of this Paper.

AS Manager or Senior (outdoors), in high-class City or West-end Pharmacy; aged 33; height 5 ft. 8 in.; speaks French. "F. I. P." (112/35), Office of this Paper.

GERMAN Assistant desires a situation in a London Pharmacy: speaks French fluently, and a little English. Zimmermann, The English Pharmacy Mentone, France.

PART-TIME or Doctor's Dispenser in exchange for comfortable home: after 5 P.M. each day, and all Saturdays and Sundays. "Permanent" (108/29), Office of this Paper.

ASSISTANT or Assistant-Manager, well up in all branches of trade; Prescriber, Extractor, Window-dresser, and tactful Counterman. Baker, 287 Finchley Road, N.W.

ELDERLY gentleman seeks engagement; duties light; country, South preferred; small remuneration. Williams, Graspan, Leamoor Road, Westbourne, Bournemouth.

MANAGER: qualified; disengaged; highest references; very good experience including Photographic; married; permanency desired. "W." (111/39), Office of this Paper.

DISPENSER (Ladv. Minor Student) requires Evening engagement to Surgeon's Hall qualification; good experience. Address, "M. D." (108/1), Office of this Paper.

ASSISTANT: 20; height 5 ft. 11 in.; disengaged; smart Dispensing; Counter experience; abstainer; references; Midlands; North preferred. Murray, Cassenbury, Orestown.

BRANCH Manager or Senior Counterman: Prescriber; City and West-end experience; good appearance and address; unqualified; excellent references. 110/2, Office of this Paper.

UNQUALIFIED: 25½; Extractor. Prescriber; married; used to taking charge; near London, where business wants working up; permanency. 113/16, Office of this Paper.

JUNIOR; aged 21; 4 years' experience; accustomed to good-class Mixed business; outdoors essential; North preferred. "W.," 24 Orchard Street, Saville Town, Dewsbury.

DISPENSER or Assistant (24) desires situation in high-class Dispensing business; West London or South Coast; excellent references. "Trinitrine" 8 Lena Gardens, West Kensington.

DENTISTRY.—Two Chemist Assistants want practice, one in Extracting and the other in Impression-taking. State terms to "Rhubarb," 1 Durham Terrace, Knight's Hill, West Norwood, S.E.

J. B. SHAPLEY, qualified, disengaged, 5 ft. 10 in., requires engagement as Assistant in good class Pharmacy; good Dispensing experience and references. Address, 9 Matlock Terrace, Torquay.

MANAGER; qualified; 29; married; speaking French; 14 years' experience, West-end and Continental (4 years as manager); excellent references. Oakley, 5 Viceroy Road, Olapham Road, S.W.

COMPETENT Assistant; Dispenser and Counterman; high-class; capable of taking charge; outdoors; tall; aged 30; disengaged shortly. "J. A. D.," Clarence Villa, Barnard's Green, Great Malvern.

BRANCH Manager: 35; married; excellent references; Prescribe, Extract, Photography, thorough knowledge of business; working-class neighbourhood preferred (London). 109/11, Office of this Paper.

QUALIFIED Chemist, at liberty shortly, desires Management, with or without view to succession; aged 23 years; married; experience varied, including Photographic, Store, and nearly 2 years' Dental. 108/5, Office of this Paper.

MANAGER seeks re-engagement: London or near; 40; qualified; married; thorough Photographic experience; familiar all best Cameras; well up in Sight-testing; has successfully developed several businesses. Interview, "Chemist," 3 Duncan Road, Richmond.

WHOLESALE.

SIDE-LINE.—West and South ground; small samples. 69 Salisbury Road, Reading.

TRAVELLER on commission or otherwise; good experience in Drug trade. "Alpha," 21 Pittfield Street, N.

PACKER, accustomed to putting up stock; 5 years' reference. "Arthur," 25 Glibert Road, Oolchester.

TRAVELLER, experienced, wishes to represent good house in Drugs, Sundries, or Proprietaries. 111/1, Office of this Paper.

ADDITIONAL Commission wanted, as side-line, by Traveller doing London and suburbs. 47 Southbridge Road, Croydon.

LABORATORY.—Advertiser seeks position as first hand; 8 years' experience; good references. 111/8, Office of this Paper.

SCOTCHMAN (aged 26) desires a situation out of the Retail Trade; good London experience. "Scot," c/o 81 Davies Street, Oxford Street, W.

WHOLESALE; position desired; Minor; 10 years' Retail; excellent references; some Manufacturing knowledge. "D.," 6 Stanhope Avenue, West Hartlepool.

QUALIFIED Chemist, energetic, first-class Sale-man, giving up Retail, desires to represent good house on salary or commission. 112/23, Office of this Paper.

MANAGER of Wholesale; supervisor of Branches; keen buyer; thoroughly experienced; young; energetic; highest references. 110/22, Office of this Paper.

MANUFACTURING (Wholesale).—Young Chemist desires situation; Laboratory, Dyes, Wets; 4 years' good Retail and Wholesale experience. 109/33, Office of this Paper.

MAN (27) wants situation in Wholesale Perfumers', Chemists', or Druggists'; well up in trade; 13 years' reference and experience. "R. C. L.," 11 Butesland Street, East Road, N.

REPRESENTATIVE or Agent, extensive connection, Doctors, Chemists, Grocers, Stores, wants good Agency, or would represent on expenses and commission basis. "Energy," 161 Corporation Street, Birmingham.

ADVERTISER, with 20 years' first-class experience, energetic, good appearance and address, will shortly be open to an engagement as Representative for a good firm; excellent credentials. "W." (108/10), Office of this Paper.

TRAVELLER, with nearly 10 years' particularly good connection amongst Chemists, mainly in the 6 Northern Counties, seeks re-engagement with a good class firm; 23 years in the trade; thoroughly steady; teetotaler. "Yorkshire" (109/25), Office of this Paper.

AGENCIES.

3s. 6d. for 50 words or less; 6d. for every 10 words beyond.

AGENTS Wanted.—Good selling line in general demand, showing 100 per cent. profit and giving satisfaction to your customers; no bad stock; pushed locally for Agents. Country and Colonial applicants please address, "Snecers," Messrs. Hannaford & Hodges, 57 Ludgate Hill, E.O.

FRANCE.—Austrian Chemist, Doctor of Philosophy, proprietor of Chemical-works near Paris, 11 years in the French chemical-trade, excellent business connection with Doctors, Apothecaries, Perfumery Stores, and Wholesale houses, would accept exclusive Agency for France of first-class firms of the Pharmaceutical, Chemicol, Dietetical, Hygienical, Perfumery branches; best references. For further details please write, Dr. Kraus, 10 Rue Marbeuf, Paris.

The Assistants' Page of News.

THIS WEEK'S "C. & D." IN BRIEF.

CONDAL WATER furnishes us with two legal reports (p. 426).

SEVERAL interesting trade novelties are described on p. 424.

DR. GULLI makes further pertinent observations on citron oil (p. 454).

THE trade of India during the last official year is reviewed on p. 434.

BRITISH export trade in February was exceptionally good (p. 435).

ADEPS ADEPTIS, our advertising-expert, takes humorous advertisers to task (p. 450).

A NEW METHOD of estimating the nitrogenous constituents of urine is outlined on p. 430.

TRANSVAAL TRADE last year was more than encouraging. We quote the figures on p. 448.

WE give further information about the liability of creolin-preparations to stamp-duty (p. 435).

MR. BROADHEAD explains that his circular *re* Mr. Walshaw's candidature was his own idea (p. 454).

THE PHARMACEUTICAL FOOTBALL CLUB retain the championship and silver cup for another year (p. 419).

THE income of a popular-pill proprietor is said to be 85,000*l.* a year, less than half of which is from the pill (p. 416).

IN AN IRON-PILLS CASE in North London it was stated that the pilloried pills were not of English manufacture (p. 426).

THE CONSTITUTION OF PILOCARPINE has still further been elucidated by the Wellcome chemical researchers (p. 436).

THE RHODAMINE DYE is in court again, and in spite of clever advocacy by Mr. Asquith the patentees gained a point (p. 426).

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION is to meet in Cambridge in 1904, with Mr. A. J. Balfour as President. Will the B.P.C. follow suit? (p. 416).

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY'S EVENING MEETING in London this week was rather poorly attended. The fare was in sympathy (p. 423).

THE IRISH PHARMACEUTICAL COUNCIL had rather a short meeting last week and made special arrangements for the April examinations (p. 447).

THE PHARMACY BILL stands where it did last week. We show on p. 432 that several of its provisions are inimical to the interests of individual chemists.

MR. C. E. PICKERING's experience of the drug-trade is criticised by correspondents. Mr. Pickering tells how a big company could not catch him (p. 455).

MR. F. H. GLEW read a paper before the Röntgen Society last week. We illustrate the report with a photograph of a Tesla high-frequency spark (p. 436).

MR. A. J. RIVETT is the new President of the Cape Colony Pharmaceutical Society, the members of which regret that there is to be no Martindale scholarship (p. 448).

A BOTTLE of SODA-WATER, 120 years old, which was brought up from the wreck of the *Royal George*, was sold this week for 25 guineas. Messrs. Stevenson & Howell secured it (p. 416).

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD has laid down an important regulation of Poor-law dispensers' salaries consequent upon a recognition of the services of Mr. H. D. Kelf by his principals (p. 418).

THE way in which Magistrates are refusing off wine-licences to chemists (*cf.* on p. 417) raises a distinct grievance, which we have put before the Board of Inland Revenue. The Board's reply is on p. 433.

IN connection with the death of the author of "John Inglesant," we give some particulars of the chemical firm of which he was a partner, reproducing a letter written in 1781 by one of his ancestors (p. 452).

MR. DOBBS is busy. Colonel Long, M.P. for the Evesham Division of Worcester, has questioned the Prime Minister about the Poisons Bill (p. 442); and a Worcestershire Agricultural Society has considered the Poisons Committee's report (p. 454).

MAINLY PERSONAL.

MR. OSWALD F. DUNFORD, chemist and druggist, Chertsey, has bought Mr. J. M. Corfe's pharmacy in Dover.

MR. J. M. CORFE, chemist and druggist, has left Dover and returned to his father's business at Maidstone.

MR. WILFRID LEAN, pharmaceutical chemist and optician, has repurchased The Pharmacy, 24 Port Street, Bengeworth.

EASTBOURNE ASSISTANTS listened to a capital paper on "Ferments and Fermentation" at the last meeting of the local Association.

DR. J. C. MCWALTER, Dublin, has opened another branch of Leonard's Medical Halls in Upper Sackville Street. He has now a dozen shops.

"CORALS AND THEIR STRUCTURE" was the title of a paper given by Mr. H. B. Fantham to the School of Pharmacy Students' Association.

A CHEMIST is wanted at the Birmingham Gasworks, as Dr. Colman, the present holder of the post, is leaving to practise as a consulting analyst in London.

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC TRADE ASSOCIATION has issued a warning as to the sale of films. Assistants are to take care that the customer is not deceived as to the make of film supplied.

ACCORDING to a Manchester correspondent, businesses are going cheap in the city on the Irwell. Minor men with capital who are not afraid of competition might try Lancashire.

AN EX-ASSISTANT of the Sussex Drug Company (Limited) is under remand at Brighton on a charge of stealing perfumery and toilet articles. It is alleged that he exchanged them for shirts, &c., stolen by a draper's assistant.

THE MEMBERS of the Public Dispensers' Association entertained their friends to an excellent smoking concert at Stone's Restaurant, Ludgate Circus, E.C., on March 11. There was a large attendance, and Mr. T. H. W. Idris, President of the Association, was in the chair.

MR. C. SORDS ELLIS, F.I.C., F.C.S., at one time demonstrator to the Pharmaceutical Society of London, and assistant to Professor Atfield, F.R.S., has accepted a permanent position on the staff of a large photographic company. Latterly Mr. Ellis has been with the Smokeless Powder Company (Limited).

AT THE MEETING of the Chemists' Assistants' Association at 73 Newman Street, W., on March 5, papers were read on "Synthetic Oils and Perfumes" (by Mr. Britton), on "Green and Black Teas" (by Mr. W. Matthews), and on the "Umbelliferae" (by Mr. R. E. Lownsbrough). Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. have presented the Association with an optical lantern.

THE BUTT SCHOLARS and the Salter Research Fellow of the Pharmaceutical Society provided the bill of fare at an evening meeting on Wednesday. It was found that the ash of ipecacuanha-root is no criterion of its value, that each drug needs a certain quantity of moistening menstruum before percolating, and that the sodium-sulphite test in the B.P. needs modifying.

MESSRS. ALLEN, COLLITT, HEWLETT, AND HIRST, of the "Square" Football Club, distinguished themselves at Acton last Saturday, when the tie between the "Square" and the London College team was played off. The game resulted in a win for the "Square" by 8 to nil, the gentlemen named placing the ball in the net. The "Square" Club thus won the cup, with 12 points for the season. The Metro. Eleven get the wooden spoon; hard luck for them, as it was their principal who gave the cup.

THE SCHOOLS which advertise in this issue of the *C. & D.* are:—

South London, 325 Kennington Road, S.E.
Westminster, Trinity Square, Borough, S.E.
Metropolitan, 160 and 162 Kennington Park Road, S.E.
Northern, 100 and 102 Burlington Street, Manchester.
Manchester, 225A and 227A Oxford Street, Manchester.
Liverpool, 6 Sandon Terrace, Upper Duke Street, Liverpool.
North of England, 55 Northumberland Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Leeds, Springfield Place, Leeds.

We omitted to mention last week the London College, 323 Clapham Road, S.W. The Secretaries of any of these will send prospectuses on application.